

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 1st June 1912.

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PART I OF WEEKLY REPORT.

LIST OF VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS.

(Corrected up to the 11th May 1912.)

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	2	3	4	5	
	BENGALI.				
1	"Bangaratna"	Krishnagar	Weekly	Kanal Lal Das ; Hindu, Karmokar ; age 25 years	500
2	"Bangavasi"	Calcutta	Do.	Bihari Lal Sarkar, Kayastha, age 55 years ; Hari Mohan Mukherji, Brahmin, age 43 years ; Satyendra Kumar Basu.	15,000
3	"Bankura Darpan"	Bankura	Do.	Rama Nath Mukherji, v.L.M.S., Brahmin, age 51 years ; Viswanath Mukharji, B.L., Brahmdu, age 40 years.	453
4	"Barisal Hitalehi"	Barisal	Do.	Durga Mohan Sen, Baldya, age 35 years	600
5	"Banga Janani"	Rangpur (Bhotmari)	Do.	Sasi Mohan Adhikari, Baldya, age 37 years	.....
6	"Basumati"	Calcutta	Do.	Sureschandra Samajpati ; Hari Pada Adhikari, age 41 years ; Mani Lal Banerji, age 36 years.	18,000 to 20,000
7	"Birbhum Hitalehi"	Bolepur (Birbhum)	Do.	Dibakar Banerji ; Hindu, Brahmin ; age 43 years	350
8	"Birbhum Varta"	Suri (Do.)	Do.	Debendra Nath Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 38 years	260
9	"Birbhum Vasi"	Rampurhat (Do.)	Do.	Nil Ratan Mukherji, B.A., Brahmin, age 44 years	250
10	"Biswadut"	Howrah	Do.	Nagendra Nath Pal Chaudhuri ; Hindu, Kayastha ; age 36 years.	1,500
11	"Burdwan Sanjivani"	Burdwan	Do.	Probodhananda Sarkar, B.L., Kayastha, age 31 years	500
12	"Chhabbis Pargana Vartavaha."	Bhowanipore	Do.	Hem Chandra Nag, Kayastha, age 29 years	500 to 700
13	"Charumihir"	Mymensingh	Do.	Baikuntha Nath Sen, B.L., Kayastha, age 42 years	1,100
14	"Chinsura Varata-vaha."	Chinsura	Do.	Dinanath Mukherji, Brahmin, age 46 years	350
15	"Dainik Chandrika"	Calcutta	Daily, except on Thursdays.	Hari Das Dutt and Khetra Nath Sen	4,000
16	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca	Weekly	Satya Bhusan Dutt Roy, Baldya, age 46 years	50
17	"Dacca Praks"	Do.	Do.	Mukhunda Behari Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 43 years	30
18	"Education Gazette"	Chinsura	Do.	Pandit Nibaran Chandra Bhattacharjee, Brahmin, age 56 years.	1,500
19	"Faridpur Hitalehini"	Faridpur	Fortnightly	Raj Mohan Mazumdar, Baldya, age about 72 years	400
20	"Gaud Dut"	Malda	Weekly	Krishna Chandra Agarwalla	.....
21	"Hindu Ranjika"	Rajshahi	Do.	Kasinuddin Sarkar, Muhammadan, Printer, age 41 years	185
22	"Hindusthan"	Calcutta	Do.	Hari Das Dutt	1,000
23	"Hitavadi"	Do.	Do.	Anukul Chandra Mukherji and Sakham Ganesh Deushkar	20,000 to 30,000
24	"Islam Rab"	Mymensingh	Do.	Maulvi Nazimuddin Ahmad, Musalman, age about 35 years	700
25	"Jagaran"	Bagerhat	Do.	.....	About 300
26	"Jasohar"	Jessore	Do.	Ananda Mohan Chaudhuri ; Hindu, Kayastha	500
27	"Jyoti"	Chittagong	Do.	Kali Sanker Chakravati, Brahmin, age 46 years	330
28	"Kalyani"	Magura	Do.	Bisweswar Mukherji, Brahmin, age 48 years	500
29	"Kasipore Nibasi"	Barisal	Do.	Pratap Chandra Mukherji ; Brahmin ; age 68 years	500
30	"Khulnavasi"	Khulna	Do.	Gopal Chandra Mukherji ; Hindu, Brahmin, age 51 years	350

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	2	3	4	5	
	BENGALI—contd.				
31	"Malda Samachar"	Malda	Weekly	Kali Prasanna Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 42 years	440
32	"Manbhum"	Purulia	Do.	Bagala Charan Ghosh; Hindu, Kayastha; age 41 years	About 800
33	"Midnapore Hitaishi"	Midnapore	Do.	Manmatha Nath Nag, Kayastha, age 35 years	200
34	"Medini Bandhab"	Midnapore	Do.	Deb Das Karan; Hindu, Sadgop; age 44 years	600
35	"Mahamaya"	Chinsura	Do.	Hem Sasi Som, Kayastha, age 57 years	150
36	"Moslem Hitaishi"	Calcutta	Do.	Shaik Abdur Rahim and Mozummul Haque	4,000 to 5,000
37	"Muhammadi"	Ditto	Do.	Muhammad Akram Khan, Musalman, age 37 years, and Maulvi Akbar Khan.	2,000
38	"Murshidabad Hitaishi."	Saidabad	Do.	Sanwari Lal Goswami; Hindu, Brahmin; age 46 years	100
39	"Nayak"	Calcutta	Daily	Birendra Chandra Ghosh and Panchkari Banerjee	1,500 to 2,000
40	"Navavanga"	Chandpur	Weekly	Harendra Kisore Ray, Kayastha, age 25 years	500
41	"Noakhali Sammilani"	Noakhali	Do.	Sasi Bhushan Das, Kayastha	200
42	"Nihar"	Contai	Do.	Madhu Sudan Jana, Brahmo, age 43 years	300
43	"Pallivarta"	Bongong	Do.	Charu Chandra Ray; Hindu, Kayastha; age 38 years	50
44	"Pallivasi"	Kalna	Do.	Sasi Bhushan Banerji, age 47 years	300
45	"Pabna Hitaishi"	Pabna	Do.	Basant Kumar Vidyavinode, Bhattacharyya, Brahmin, age 30 years.	100
46	"Praja Bandhu"	Tippera	Fortnightly	Munshi Muhammad A. Meen, Musalman, age 53 years	200
47	"Prasun"	Katwa	Weekly	Purna Chandra Chatterji, Brahmin age 47, and Banku Behary Ghose, Goala, age 41 years.	618
48	"Pratihar"	Berhampur	Do.	Kamakshya Prasad Ganguly, Brahmin, age 64 years	500
49	"Purulia Darpan"	Purulia	Do.	Amulya Ratan Chatterji, Brahmin, age 41 years	About 700
50	"Rajakoti"	Do.	Do.	Bagala Charan Ghosh, Kayastha, age 41 years	110
51	"Ratnakar"	Asansol	Do.	Saty Kinkar Banerji, Brahmin, age 26 years	500
52	"Rangpur Durpan"	Rangpur (Bhotmari)	Do.	Braja Nath Basak; Hindu, Tanti; age 52 years	200
53	"Rangpur Dakprakash"	Ditto ditto	Do.	Hara Sarker Meitra, Brahmin, age 66 years	300
54	"Samay"	Calcutta	Do.	Jnanendra Nath Das, M.A., B.L., Brahmo, age 58 years	500 to 800
55	"Sanjaya"	Faridpur	Do.	Rama Nath Ghosh, Kayastha, age about 38 years	500
56	"Sanjivani"	Calcutta	Do.	Lalit Mohan Das, late Professor, City College; Sibnath Sastri, M.A.; Ramananda Chatterji, M.A., Editor, "Modern Review," etc.; K. K. Mitter.	11,000
57	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong	Do.	Kasi Chandra Das Gupta, Brahmo, age 57 years	300
58	"Suhrid"	Perajpur	Fortnightly	Ram Chandra Pal, Kayastha	300
59	"Sulabh Samachar"	Calcutta	Weekly	Jaladhar Sen, Kayastha, age 51 years	25,000
60	"Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-Ananda Bazar Patrika."	Ditto	Do.	Rasik Mohan Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 39 years, and Mrinal Kanti Ghosh.	2,500
61	"Siksha Samachar"	Dacca	Do.	Abinas Chandra Gupta, M.A., B.L., Baidya, age 36 years	.....
62	"Tippera Guide"	Comilla	Do.	.....	.....
63	"Tippera Hitaishi"	Tippera	Do.	Kamasiva Kumar Singha, Brahmo, age 23 years	700
64	"Vartabaha"	Ranaghat	Do.	Girija Nath Mukherji; Hindu, Brahmin; age 41 years	500 to 600
65	"Viswavarta"	Dacca	Do.	Abinash Chandra Gupta, M.A., B.L.; Hindu, Baidya; age 33 years.	12,000

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	HINDI.				
66	"Bajrang Samachar"	Jamora (Gaya) ...	Monthly ...	.....	.....
67	"Bharat Mitra" ...	Calcutta ...	Weekly ...	Ambika Prasad Bajpayi ...	About 4,000
68	"Dainik Bharat Mitra"	Do. ...	Daily ...	.....	.....
69	"Bihar Bandhu" ...	Patna ...	Weekly ...	Mahabir Prasad Bania ...	400
70	"Biharee" ...	Bankipore ...	Do. ...	Akhauri Basudeo Narayan Singh and Parushottam Prasad Sarma.	700
71	"Ghar Bandhu" ...	Ranchi ...	Fortnightly ...	Rev. Dr. A. Nottrott ...	1,350
72	"Hindi Bangavasi"	Calcutta ...	Weekly ...	Harl Krishna Joshar, Khetri, age 36 years ...	6,500
73	"Hitvarta" ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Babu Rao Paradkar; Mahratta, Brahmin; age 30 years ...	3,000 to 4,000
74	"Lakshmi" ...	Gaya ...	Monthly ...	Mahadeo Prasad, age 38 years ...	300
75	"Marwari" ...	Calcutta ...	Weekly ...	B. K. Tebriwalla; Hindu, Agarwalla; age 41 years ...	500
76	"Siksha" ...	Bankipore ...	Do. ...	Pandit Sakal Narayan Pandey Kavyatirtha, Brahmin ...	300
77	"Mithila Mihir" ...	Darbhanga ...	Do. ...	Pandit Joganand Kumar ...	600
78	"Satya Sanatan Dharma."	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Radha Mohan Gokulji; Hindu, Vaisya; age 47 years ...	500
79	"Tirhut Samachar"	Muzaffarpur ...	Do. ...	Sangeewar Prasad Sarma, Brahmin ...	400
	URDU.				
80	"Al Punch" ...	Bankipore ...	Weekly ...	Syed Ahsan, Muhammadan, age 40 years ...	500
1	"Darul Hukumat"	Calcutta ...	Weekly and bi-weekly.	Hafiz Bur Ellahi, Muhammadan, age 43 years ...	1,000
82	"Durbar Gazette"...	Ditto ...	Daily ...	Nawab Ali, Muhammadan ...	1,000
3	"Star of India" ...	Arrah ...	Weekly ...	Muhammad Zahurul Haque, Muhammadan, age 61 years ...	657
	PERSIAN.				
84	"Hablul Matin" ...	Calcutta ...	Weekly and daily	Syed Jelaaluddin, Shiahs Muhammadan, age 61 years ...	1,000
	URIYA.				
85	"Garjatbasini" ...	Talchar State ...	Weekly ...	Bhagirathi Misra, Brahmin, age 43 years ...	In Orissa.
86	"Sambalpur Hitai-shini."	Deoghar ...	Do. ...	Dina Bandhu Gornayat, Chasa, age 37 years ...	Do.
87	"Samvad Vaheka"	Balasore ...	Do. ...	Kasinath Panda, Brahmin, age 37 years ...	400
88	"Uriya and Nava-samvad."	Balasore ...	Do. ...	Ram Tarak Sen; Hindu, Tamli; age 50 years ...	450
89	"Utkal Varta" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Hridkesh Pandey Kaviraj ...	500
90	"Utkal Dipika" ...	Cuttack ...	Do. ...	Gouri Sankar Ray ...	1,300

PART I OF WEEKLY REPORT.

Additions to, and alterations in, the list of Vernacular Newspapers as it stood on the 1st May 1912.

No.	Name of Publication,	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor,	Circulation.
1	"Sarba Hitaishi" ...	Bankipur ...	Daily ...	Mahabir Prasad, (caste and age not known).	Not known.

No. 33 "Medinipur Hitaishi"—the circulation has risen from 200 to 450.

No. 34 "Medini Bandhav"—the circulation has gone down from 600 to 426.

No. 38 "Murshidabad Hitaishi"—the circulation has risen from 162 to 200.

No. 45 "Pabna Hitaishi"—the circulation has risen from 100 to 500.

I—FOREIGN POLITICS.

After desecrating the mosque, the dome, the holy court-yard and the tomb of Meshed the Russians, says the *Nama-i-Mu-*

Meshed.

qaddas Hablul Matin [Calcutta] of the 20th May,

captured Mirza Murtaza Khan Mutawalli Bushi, along with other men, made a list of the books and precious holy relics of the place, and by force obtained a writ from the said Matawalli Basbi to the effect that the Russians paid due respect to the holy place. They also obtained similar documents, on pain of death, from the learned men of Khorassan. Let us see what the English Consul General, who has seen and known everything, reports the matter to the Foreign Minister of England.

The English Consul-General is a righteous man, and it is not probable that he would keep anything, about the Meshed incident, secret. He was aggrieved to see the Russians commit this unpardonable sin. He even tried to prevent the outrage but failed, owing to the Russian power and influence there.

Though the authorities at the centre, viz., Teheran, apparently express uneasiness and indignation at this outrage of their holy shrine, yet even a child of Meshed knows that it is they who are responsible for it. The Russians, who have been long known to have their eye on the library, the treasures and other precious relics of Meshed, have at last secured them. Those who have seen St. Petersburg, know that the Russian Government have adorned the place with the Ardbel Library of Shah Safi.

The people of Meshed are in a state of bewilderment, and do not know what is in store for them in future. We think the Russians would, for some time, wait to see the result of their venture and policy. It is apparent now that the real intention of Russia, by such acts, was not really to take the country but to achieve something great.

The secret alliance of Russia and Italy has now come to light. The object of the two Powers is to excite the Muhammadaus against the Christians, so that the former may, in a body, declare a holy war against the Christians, and all Christian Powers may continue to fight the Muhammadans and justify the Russian and the Italian butcheries. It was therefore that, in the beginning of the war in Tripoli, the Archbishop of Italy proclaimed that it should be a holy war carried on with the object of spreading civilization, the Pope of Rome gave his rosary beads to the Italian admiral as a blessing and good omen, Port Kamaran, which is a quarantine port for the pilgrims of Mecca, was besieged, and to excite the Musalmans it was given out that the Italians intended to blow up the Kaaba and the tomb of the Prophet, from airships. The said Archbishop also warned the Christian world against the alarming progress that Islam was making in Senegambia (Africa), where the whole population would become Muhammadan in another twenty years, and appealed for men and money to check the alleged evil. The Russians, on the other hand, defamed Islam as much as they could and excited the Muhammadans of Tabrez and Gilan. The Siqut-ul Islam and Zia-ul-ulema, however, paid no heed to what the Russians did, and the object of the Russians in capturing and sending to the gallows these two great men was nothing but to enrage the Muhammadans. Their action in Rusht and Anzeli, too, had no other object. But finding themselves unsuccessful in those places, the Russians turned their attention to Meshed, where they committed the sacrilege with the same purpose but here, too, with no better success, the Muhammadans either through sloth or want of spirit not resenting. It is also worth noticing that the Russians began to play tricks in Persia just at the same time when Italy advanced towards Tripoli. Anticipating that the Muhammadaus would surely resent the sacrilege at Meshed the Russians had stationed their garrison in Kafkaz and other Islamic places under them. The intention of Russia and Italy was to cause injury to England who stands in their way. It is an admitted fact that in case of a general rising of the Muhammadans of the world, though due to the action of Russia and Italy only, England who rules over a hundred millions of Muhammadans, would be the greatest sufferer. The way in which the Muhammadans have received these provocations

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABLUL MATIN.
May. 20th, 1912.

without responding to them, though not creditable, has at least averted the danger of a general combination of the Christians to blot out Islam from the face of the earth.

It is a matter of great regret that the authorities at the centre, who had sent repeated telegrams to Constantinople for the release of a guilty man like Amir Afkham, are silent like the dead, over the incidents of Tabrez, Gilan and Meshed.

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABUL MATIN,
May 20th, 1912.

2. From the telegrams about the Afghan encroachments in Persia, the *Nama-i-Muqaddas Habul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 20th May conjectures them to be near Seistan and

The Afghan raid in Persia.

says that it is fifty-seven years that Persia had to give up Herat and acknowledge the independence of Afghanistan, she has never encroached upon Afghan territory since, though the latter was more than once involved in foreign and civil wars. Persia never dreamt that at a time when she is hemmed in on three sides by the foreigners and has internal revolutions, Afghanistan would rise up as a fourth enemy.

In the time of Amir Abdur Rahman there arose some dispute about the boundaries between Persia and Afghanistan but it was amicably settled. The present Afghan raid appears to be due to the dispute over the division of Meah Halmond which arose a few years ago and which Sir Macmahon, the present foreign representative of the Government of India, was sent to determine, but his award was not accepted by Persia. The cause of the present trouble is not known. All that we can say, therefore, is that it does not become the Muhammadans to fight with each other and thus afford an opportunity to aliens to turn it to its best advantage. Persia, however, is obliged to refer the matter to the English according to the Paris agreement of 1858, which requires that Persia should not interfere in any Afghan matter personally until she fails to have it settled by the English. The paper then gives a detail of the Paris agreement (1858), and says that Persia would be violating the terms of the agreement if she undertook to expel the enemies without reference to the English who, we believe, in spite of an alliance with Russia in 1907, never like to be left behind by their old rival (Russia) in Asia. The help rendered to Persia by the English in the recent incident, and the objection of the Russians, show that their rivalry has rather increased than otherwise. As Russia means to interpose as an arbitrator to decide the boundary dispute between Persia and Turkey, and has to that end sent her troops to the neighbourhood of Urumia, England would also send her troops to the Seistan border, and as Russia has acquired influence in Khorassan by committing inhuman acts in Meshed, England would also do the same at Seistan, Birjand and the Afghan border, at the cost of both Persia and Afghanistan. It would, therefore, be in the interest of these two Islamic countries to continue to be friendly, as they have been these 60 years and should not encroach upon each other. The present wretched condition of the Muhammadans is due to their own differences and disputes. As the Turkish Government had to suffer on account of Abdul Hamid's desire to take advantage of the weakness of Persia, the present Afghan raids would also prove disastrous to both the countries. The dispute may provoke Russia, and thus make the matter worse by compelling Afghanistan also to acknowledge the alliance of 1907.

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABUL MATIN,
May 20th, 1912.

3. The *Nama-i-Muqaddas Habul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 20th May is surprised to learn from the Blue Book received in

The Blue-Book in Paris.

Paris, that the officiating Russian Foreign Minister says that Mr. Shuster's dismissal was required not by him alone but by the Cabinet of Persia as well. The Blue-Book, says the paper, has been officially published and cannot but be true. God forbid that the ministers of Persia should have had a hand, out of pure selfishness, in Mr. Shuster's dismissal. The English Minister also writes that the ministers were not pleased with Mr. Shuster.

Another thing worthy of notice is that there has been a talk, for the past 12 months, of the advisability of increasing the powers of the Government and decreasing the authority of the Mejliss. The amendment of the law on the subject has also been hinted at in the proclamation of the new election, and appears to have Russia's approval.

The most important information is that the officiating Foreign Minister of Russia speaks of some Bakhtiaris trying to restore Muhammad Ali to the throne. Who are these Bakhtiaris to whom the Russian Minister refers? How could the Foreign Minister say such a thing officially to the English Minister? Have not these things been already settled in Paris?

When Sardar Asad proceeded towards Teheran, after seeing the Foreign Minister of Russia in Paris, most of the papers said that this officer had promised Sardar Asad the permanent Prime Ministership of Persia, but in the Blue-Book we see the officiating Russian Foreign Minister asking the English Minister's help in nominating a Prime Minister. What does this mean? God forbid that the anticipations of the newspapers prove to be true, and that it should have been decided that Muhammad Ali should be King, and a Bakhtiari his Minister!

Passages from the Blue Book bearing on the above, are quoted at the end of the article.

4. The *Nama-i-Muqaddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 20th May

An account of the martyrdom of Siquit-ul-Islam

reproduces an article from the *Hikmat* (Egypt) which says how the Russian army (after the selfish ministers of Persia had accepted the second ultimatum and Mr. Shuster was dismissed), killed two of the town police of Tabrez and disarmed the Mojahidins, how the Ahrars lit., free people and the Mojahidins, being exasperated stood up in defence and defeated the Russians, how the adherents of the despotic rule helped the Russians who also got a reinforcement of four thousand troops from Julfa, how on the 9th of Muharrum, the Russians took the town, how Siquit ul-Islam was invited to the Russian Consulate to discuss peace, how the Russians asked him to give it in writing that the Russian troops maintained peace in Tabrez, did nothing against humanity and civilization, and that Siquit-ul-Islam was agreeable to those troops remaining in Tabrez, how on his refusal to comply Siquit-ul-Islam was subjected to various sorts of ill-treatments, and sent to the gallows on the next day after saying his midday prayer.

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABLUL MATIN,
May 20th, 1912.

5. The *Nama-i-Muqaddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 20th May draws

The agreement about Morocco.

the attention of the authorities of the Persian Government to the agreements of the Powers about Morocco, and says that on account of the interference of Germany, the people of Asia, specially the Muhammadans, believed that Morocco would now be released from the clutches of Spain and France, but in six years only all the terms about the sovereignty of Morocco and the promises of the Powers as to the welfare and progress of that country proved to be false. None of the Christian Powers remained true to its agreement. Similarly, all agreements and promises of England and Russia about the sovereignty and independence of Persia are proving meaningless, and being broken. The same pretext, of disorder and inability of the Government to restore peace, which the Powers brought forward in the case of Morocco, is now being repeated in the case of Persia. The only difference between the agreements relating to Morocco and that to Persia is that in the former Morocco was also a party to the agreement while Persia remains aloof in the latter, though the two Powers make Persia also a party to the same. Asiatics who do not understand the policy of the Powers are pleased with such promises of the Powers, but others who understand them, know full well that the very pledge of the Europeans means the loss of sovereign power and integrity which they guarantee.

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABLUL MATIN,
May 20th, 1912.

6. The *Nama-i-Muqaddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 20th May

The present dangers for the Muhammadans.

translates an article from the *Sabilar-Reshad* which reviews the situation in the present Moslem world, and gives a list of the Christian encroachments upon Morocco, Persia and Tripoli the last of which has, according to the paper, inflamed the Muhammadans of the whole world from India to Tunis and from Turkistan to the Isles of Java. The present is a more critical time for Islam, says the paper, than the time of the Crusades, when the enemies met at a single spot to decide their fate, but now Islam is surrounded on all sides. It is, therefore, the duty of the Muhammadans to set aside their personal interest and selfish feeling and unite together in a common cause.

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABLUL MATIN,
May 20th, 1912.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
May 23rd, 1912.

7. A friend of the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May, writing to that paper in reply to the query of the *Englishman's* correspondent as to why the Indian Muhammadans are not applying to their Government to help Persia in checking the encroachment of Afghanistan on her territory, says that occupation of Persia by the Afghans means no loss to the Mussalman Power, while the case is otherwise with Italian aggression on Turkey, and that since the British Government has more Musalman subjects than the Government of Turkey, the prayer of the Musalmans to help Turkey is not unreasonable.

NAYAK,
May 25th, 1912.

8. In its leader the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 26th May, expounds and illustrates the idea that Occidental civilisation is unsuited to Oriental countries. According to the writer, adoption of European civilisation has carried Turkey, Persia and China to the verge of ruin. Turkey, however, may revive, because the Sheikh-ul-Islam has banned European civilisation, suppressed freedom of women and driven atheism out of the land. As regards Persia the establishment of the *Majlis* marked the beginning of her sorrows, and now she is beset with cruel and treacherous enemies both at home and abroad. Even insignificant Afghanistan, not to speak of Powers like Germany, Russia and England, is poking its sting at her side. Her name is sure to be wiped off the face of the earth, unless she can place herself completely under a leader, banish European civilisation and stand again on the firm foundation of religion. The old idea that an awakening of China will be fraught with danger to the whole world on account of her immense power, has been dispelled by the present revolution in the country. One by one her provinces are being wrested from her, and European Powers are rushing in to divide her between themselves, on the pretext of advancing her a big loan. It will be fortunate if the matter does not lead to a destructive quarrel between them. It may be said that Japan has become great by imitating Europe. But this is a mistake. Japan has assimilated as much of European civilisation as she can very well bear. She continues to pay divine honours to her Mikado and has kept her social bonds intact. She has learnt to pay the Europeans back in their own coin. She has learnt the manliness, activity, science and commercialism of Europe so as to be able to compete successfully with the West. Nevertheless, she must pay dearly for the little she has imitated. Already anarchism has reared its head in her bosom.

SATYA S. NATHAN
DH. BMA.,
May 21st, 1912.

9. The *Satya Sanatan Dharma* [Calcutta] of the 21st May complains that the Hindu and Sikh inhabitants of Afghanistan that number about 50,000 and that have been receiving good treatment in the past, are these days suffering from gross injustice and high-handedness. Hindu temples are demolished, Hindu women are outraged, and Hindus are not allowed to blow a conch in their temples.

Referring to a particular case in which a Muhammadan forcibly carried a Sikh girl to a mosque and married her, which proved a fatal blow to her mother, and to the fact that the appeal to the Amir for protection proved to be fruitless, the journal advises the Hindus there to return to their country and to wait till a Hari Singha Nalwa is born again.

MUHAMMADI,
May 26th, 1912.

10. Referring to the alleged rising of a class of Mahrattis known as Ranas in Goa, an account of which is contained in a correspondence in the *Madras Mail* newspaper, the *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th May says that considering how the ancestors of the present-day Mahrattas spread terror in Bengal by their depredations, the Government of India should at once advance to help the Portuguese Government in nipping the activities of the Ranas in Goa in the bud, and thus preventing them from gaining strength.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

SANJIVANI,
May 23rd, 1912.

11 The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May complains that the English soldiers at Barrackpore are committing oppressions on people. They are forcibly taking away fruits.

and vegetables from neighbouring villages. And the *Bengalee* says that recently they crossed the river to Serampore and pursued a woman who had to take shelter in the house of Babu Sarada Prasad Ghosh, Government Pleader. The soldiers even tried to force themselves into this house. The authorities ought to make arrangements for keeping them confined within the precincts of the cantonment.

12. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 24th May writes as follows:—

Conviction in the Police Torture case.

We know that police servants severely ill-treat accused persons for extorting confessions from them. Every police station or out-post has a *thandaghar* or torture-room. In this room various hidden means are adopted for extorting confessions. The system under which the Indian police still works and the rule which regulates promotion in the police service, leave no easy method for securing conviction save by extorting confession. While on the one hand there is no love lost between the public and the police, the former hating and dreading the latter, on the other hand, the method of work which the police follows makes it impossible for the public to co-operate with it, for any one supplying it with any information of crime is terribly harassed by it, so much so that people often refrain from informing it of theft committed in their own houses. Above all, ninety per cent of police servants are so haughty and arrogant that peaceful respectable men dread even to cross their shadows. The authorities, however, require the police not only to detect criminals but also to secure their conviction, any one failing in this being liable to lose his promotion and even his service. In this state of things police servants are compelled, for their own safety, to secure conviction of accused persons by extorting confessions from them, there being no other feasible means of attaining the same object.

The truth is that while the laws and regulations which have been framed for governing India follow the ideal of Western countries, there is a great want in this country of able and competent men for working them. If even a few able, industrious and spirited officers may be found who are fit for the task, their merit is not recognized, for they cannot flatter the *burra Sahab*. Recently a number of promotions were announced in the Calcutta Police, and we are bound to say in this connection that the Police Commissioner ignored the claims of really able, gentle and spirited officers and gave promotions to his favourites. A police servant in this country is looked down upon by his friends and relatives and the service is fraught with danger at every step, making him liable to be incarcerated for the slightest irregularity. If, over and above this, promotion in the service is made impossible without flattery, why should really good men do their work well? Moreover, no expert knowledge is required for service in the Police Department. All this seems to have led to the department being filled with the scum of the society, who know only to harass, persecute and oppress people. Oppression and persecution have, in consequence, become an inevitable concomitant of the doings of the police.

We have been led to say all this by the decision of the High Court in the recent Calcutta Police Torture case. A jury consisting of nine European gentlemen unanimously found all the accused persons, among whom there was an Englishman, guilty, and the Hon'ble Chief Justice, agreeing with the jury, convicted them all. We heartily thank the gentlemen of the jury and Sir Lawrence Jenkins for this even-handed dispensation of justice. Their conviction will serve to check the arrogance of police servants, induce them to refrain from torturing to the extent of being liable to detection, and make police *darogas* more courteous and more particular in the observance of legal form than before. It should also be noted here that Sir Frederick Halliday showed no partiality towards the accused persons in the above case. He even forbade the officers of the Calcutta Police to help Mr. Heelis, the convicted police officer, with money. For this he deserves our best thanks. But this also we say that he will, on this account, fail to earn that amount of popularity among police officers which Sir John Lambert earned before him. Nevertheless, the inhabitants of Calcutta will highly respect him for it.

It is such impartial dispensation of justice which has kept alive the Indian's love for British rule. Judges like Sir Lawrence Jenkins are the pillars of the

NAYAK.
May 24th, 1912.

British Empire. The High Court is a much stronger fort than a hundred forts like the Fort William taken together for the safety of British rule. We shall be gratified if the rulers of the country keep this in mind and act accordingly.

HITAVARTA
May 19th, 1912.

Secret Police in Calcutta.

13. The Koila Ghat contemporary, writes the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 19th May, is said to be a favourite of Government and, therefore, supposed to know the Government views. The people therefore were much pleased at its announcement that the Criminal Investigation Department was going to be abolished. Their pleasure however diminished when it said that there was going only to be a reduction in it, and now they are beating their breasts in grief on its intimating that the Secret Police is going to be increased in Calcutta.

BANGARATNA,
May 20th, 1912.

Bengal Government and murders by dacoits in the 24-Parganas district.

14. Referring to the announcement made by the Bengal Government, in contradiction of a correspondence which appeared in the *Bengalee* newspaper, to the effect that only one man has been murdered by dacoits in the locality of Sonarpur in the 24-Parganas district, since the beginning of this year, the *Bangaratna* [Krishnagar] of the 20th May remarks.—

The occurrence of at least one case of murder by dacoits has been admitted by the Government. This too is not desirable.

MITHILA MIHIR,
May 26th, 1912.

Dacoities in the Darbhanga District.

15. The *Mithila Mihir* [Darbhanga] of the 25th May regretfully notes that a commotion has been caused in the area under Bahera Thana (Darbhanga district) by frequent occurrences of theft and robberies which the police are taking no steps to stop.

Quoting certain instances of recent occurrence, the journal observes that people of the villages in the vicinity of Manigachhi are in a state of panic, doubting if they are still under the protection of the British Government. It appeals to the District Magistrate and the Police Superintendent to make speedy and adequate arrangements to protect the people that are in trouble.

The journal further complains of the inactivity of the village Chaukidars. Practically speaking, they are paid for nothing, for neither they patrol the village in the night nor try to find out the culprits. On the contrary, they are sometimes accomplices themselves.

HITAVADI,
May 24th, 1912.

Kidnapping scares.

16. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th May, writes that there are scares being got up in Narainganj, old Malda, Mymensingh and elsewhere that a hundred human heads are to be sacrificed, because the Engineers are finding the building of the Sara Bridge exceedingly difficult. This scare has been responsible for many assaults on innocent people who are wrongly suspected of kidnapping children. There are some such cases before the courts now pending, and it behoves the Government to issue circulars warning the masses against the falseness of such scares.

SATYA SANATAN
DHARMA,
May 26th, 1912.

"Government's kindness".

17. Many helpless creatures of God, writes the *Satya Sanatan Dharma* [Calcutta] of the 28th May, are killed every year by poisonous animals and beasts, but the Christian official bureaucracy or the kind Government does not allow the people to keep arms.

But the Whites may keep, without any difficulty, eight weapons if they please. This is the highest (conception of) Christianity. Blessed is the Christian teaching, virtue and uprightness.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

BANGAVASI,
May 25th, 1912.

An Assam cooly case.

18. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 25th May draws the attention of Sir Archdale Earle to the Assam cooly case, reported in the *Sanjivani*, in which five tea-garden coolies have been punished on the complaint of a tea-garden manager (See Report Native Papers, dated the 25th May 1912, paragraph 16) and requests him the look into the papers of the case.

19. Referring to two cases of abduction and outrage on Musalman girls now *sub judice* at Dacca, the *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th May, says that if the offence is brought home to the accused persons, they should be exemplarily punished. It makes one's hair stand on end to hear of the occurrence of such cases in a British territory.

MUHAMMADI,
May 24th, 1912.

20. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 29th May refers to the case of one Jogendra Nath *alias* Satyendra Nath Dutt, a schoolmaster in Manikgunj, who has lately been called upon by the local subdivisional officer to find sureties to be of good behaviour or suffer rigorous imprisonment for a year, because the police thought he might probably commit dacoities. This is inhuman punishment. A man suspected of offending against society may perhaps be kept in confinement for a time, but how can he be sentenced to rigorous imprisonment? A man cannot be punished on suspicion. The subdivisional officer has of course facilitated his own future promotion, but we ask where has the *swadeshi* spirit among the population of the country already vanished? Until Jogendra Nath Dutt is proved guilty he deserves the sympathy and support of his fellow-countrymen. The people of Manikgunj may have come to be lost to all sense of patriotism, but are they lost equally to all feelings of charity and manhood? We think there should be a public fund to defend people oppressed by the police and the law.

NAYAK,
May 29th, 1912.

21. Referring to the security of Rs. 1,000 demanded from the *Vakil* of Amritsar on the declaration of its new printer, the *Satya Sanatan Dharma* [Calcutta] of the 28th May apprehends that by putting such obstacles in the way of the work done by the Press, the Government perhaps wants gradually to make the Press extinct in India.

SATYA SANATAN
DHARMA,
May 28th, 1912.

It is to be highly regretted. The Government should adequately punish the offenders no doubt, but should not interfere with the liberty of the press—

“Even sandal-wood gives forth fire,
If it is subjected to too much friction.”

22. The *Vartavaha* [Ranaghat] of the 25th May is glad that the Judges of the Judicial Commissioner's Court in Sind have resolved to establish and maintain good feelings between the bench and the bar. Similar efforts ought to be made throughout India.

VARTAVAHA
May 25th, 1912.

23. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th May, in discussing the statement, which appeared in certain newspapers, that Mr. Justice Fletcher is soon to be Chief Justice of Madras, writes that His Lordship is a fearless, impartial and able Judge, whose translation to Madras will indeed be a regrettable loss to Bengal, but will recompense Madras for the sacrifice she has made for Bengal in parting with Lord Carmichael.

HITAVADI,
May 24th, 1912.

(c)—Jails.

24. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 25th May says that the Government ought at once to inform the public, whether the rumour of Indubhusan Roy's suicide in the Andaman's is true or not.

BANGAVASI,
May 25th, 1912.

(d)—Education.

25. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th May thinks that the question of compulsory primary education in India is not closed by Mr. Montagu's recent statement in Parliament in reply to Mr. Watts that the Government has no desire to imitate the lead Baroda has set in the matter. No reason has

HITAVADI,
May 24th, 1912.

been assigned for this dislike to compulsory primary education on the part of Government. Any way, the agitation in the matter cannot end now. Mr. Gokhale is soon going to England and the British public will yet hear more of the subject.

CHARU MIHIR,
May 21st, 1912.

26. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 21st May thinks the selection of Mr. Nathan to be President of the Dacca University Committee will be unpopular. He was associated with the illiberal regime of the defunct Government of Eastern Bengal. His new office will strengthen popular distrust of the proposed University. And yet the success of this University pre-supposes popular co-operation. An essential condition of such co-operation will be the selection of an impartial man in Mr. Nathan's place.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
May 23rd, 1912.

27. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-O-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May also takes the same view. Mr. Nathan is believed not to cherish any liking for Eastern Bengal Hindus, and is somewhat biased in favour of Musalmans.

Ibid.

DAILY
BHARAT MITRA,
May 29th, 1912.

28. The *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 29th May writes that if the journal were to be consulted, it would advise the Government to give a University to Burma as well as to Behar before founding one at Dacca, for the

people of the said provinces being different from the Bengalis in language, custom, mode of living, and past traditions, are in need of separate Universities, without which they cannot make adequate progress.

SANJIVANI,
May 23rd, 1912.

29. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May says that the Bengal Government's decision not to abolish the Sibpur Engineering College and to establish a Technological College has given satisfaction to all Bengalis. Sibpur being a very malarious place, it will be better to remove the Engineering College to "Belvedere."

HITAVARTA,
May 19th, 1912.

30. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 19th May, complains of the neglect of Hindi by the Calcutta University, and its indifference in appointing examiners, those appointed being unknown men having no reputation of being Hindi Scholars or authors, and generally some Bengalis or a Calcutta Pandit having little acquaintance with Hindi.

The paper concludes with a request to its contemporaries to agitate so that Hindi may secure fair play from the University.

BANGAVASI,
May 25th, 1912.

31. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 25th May writes as follows:—

Before Sir Alfred Croft's time text-books for Upper Primary and Middle Examinations used to be selected by Inspectors of Schools. But the abuse which they made of this power and the unpleasant agitation which such abuse gave rise to in the Press, induced Sir Alfred to take the power out of their hands and make the rule that in future the Director of Public Instruction himself would annually select text-books on English and Bengali literature, while teachers of schools would have full liberty in selecting text-books on Mathematics, History, Geography and other subjects, from lists of books approved by the Text Book Committee. This rule satisfied the public and worked very well.

Next came Sir Alexander Pedler's Kindergarten scheme, and text-books on all subjects began to be selected by the Director, thus unnecessarily depriving teachers of their liberty in the matter of selecting text-books on subjects like Mathematics, History and Geography. However that may be, this rule also worked well, for the Director always took care to select the best books. Moreover, last year Mr. Kuchler extended to teachers the privilege of selecting text-books on Arithmetic for the lower primary examination. This year, however, he has delegated to Inspectors the power of selecting text-books on all subjects. It is impossible that the Director does not know the character of these Inspectors. They have abused even the small power which was left to them, of selecting text-books for certain classes of High Schools. Not long ago a regular scandal occurred in this connection, and whether the Inspector of the division concerned was to blame or not, a subordinate of his was dismissed for it. Mr. Kuchler may say that if the Inspectors abuse the power which he

has newly entrusted to them for two years, he can easily take it back from their hands. But we think that, considering how the Inspectors had all along proved themselves unworthy of the charge, the experiment ought not to have been made at all. However that may be, we suggest that the power delegated to the Inspectors should be restricted to the selection of text-books on literature only, leaving teachers full liberty in the matter of selecting text-books on all other subjects from approved lists. This suggestion will, if carried out, check favouritism and set up a healthy competition among authors of text-books, and all approved text-books being written according to the syllabus, there will also be no difficulty in holding examinations. If teachers of lower primary schools can select text-books on Arithmetic for their students, why cannot teachers of upper primary, middle and high schools select text-books on Mathematics, History, Science and so forth, for use in their schools? We hope that the authorities will accept our reasonable proposal. We also advise Inspectors not to abuse their new power. We do not know what leads to the selection of the dictionary or alphabet reader by some particular gentleman of unknown name, as sole text-books on the subjects concerned. Too much of anything is bad. If we see matters going to excess we shall be obliged to reveal the whole mystery.

32. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th May publishes a letter complaining that the Rajshahi College summer vacation was generally notified to end on the 9th July. After the students went away, the date of reopening was changed to the 3rd July. But this change was not notified through the papers. Most of the students, who are now at their homes, will thus be ignorant of the change, and if they turn up on the 10th July, will lose their percentage of attendance for a week.

33. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th May, complains of the want of a hostel for Moslem students in connection with the Calcutta Presidency College.

Educational grievances of Bengali Musalmans.

The number of Musalman students in the College, says the writer, is fairly large and is expected to be larger year by year. These students have to suffer great inconvenience for want of a hostel. The attention of Lord Carmichael is drawn to the matter, and His Lordship is requested to enquire whether somebody is not responsible for this negligence to look after the convenience of Musalman students. His Lordship's attention is also drawn to the fact that Musalmans do not get a share of the educational grant of the Government, proportionate to their numerical strength in the country.

34. One Vasudeo Narain Dvibedi having heard that the allotment of four lakhs to Behar out of the King-Emperor's grant of 50 lakhs announced at Delhi, is going to be spent on increasing the number of officers and High Schools, points out in the *Tirhut Samachar* [Muzaffarpur] of the 23rd May, that no sensible man would approve of such a disposal of the fund, and suggests that it should go to open more schools in villages which stand in much more need of the same.

35. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 24th May thanks the Government for having appointed a Musalman Deputy Inspector of Schools in every district, and prays the Director of Public Instruction to appoint a Musalman Deputy Inspector in Calcutta also, when Babu Satkari Ghosh will retire. The number of Musalman students reading in lower schools in Calcutta is not less than that of Hindu students.

36. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th May hopes that His Excellency the Governor will accede to the prayer of Babu Kali Kumar Ghosh, late 6th Master of the Narainganj High School, and reinstate him in office. It appears he incurred Mr. Stapleton's displeasure because one of his sons, Aswini, was an accused in the Dacca Conspiracy case, though he has been subsequently acquitted by the High Court. The authorities of the High School still decline to do justice to Kali Babu, though they have forwarded his petition to Lord Carmichael.

HITAVADI,
May 24th, 1912.

MUHAMMADI,
May 24th, 1912.

TIRHUT SAMACHAR,
May 23rd, 1912.

MOSLEM HITAIISHI,
May 24th, 1912.

HITAVADI,
May 24th, 1912.

(e).—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

HITAVADI,
May 24th, 1912.

37. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th May strongly protests against the view taken in a recent official Resolution that "the provision of wholesome water in villages * * * in India * * * has always been regarded as one of the chief duties of land-owners." If this be so, how can the imposition of the Road Cess be justified? Has not the imposition of this cess largely relieved land-owners of their obligations on this score? It is a great pity that Government should thus try to shirk its duties. How can landlords be expected to discharge their obligations with more scrupulousness than Government? We, of course, blame influential landlords who neglect their duties in this connection. But the Bengal Government deserves still greater censure. We trust our new Governor will have a juster conception of the duties of Government in this regard than his predecessors. This water-supply difficulty is to a large extent the cause of malaria, and its removal is likely to check the ravages of the disease to an appreciable extent.

BANGAVASI,
May 25th, 1912.

38. Referring to the scheme of strengthening the staff of sanitary experts under the Government, the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 25th May says:—

Sanitation.
The main duty of sanitary experts is to educate the public in the principles of sanitation. At one time Indians, and specially Hindus, knew how to preserve health, but now they are forgetting all about it. Are English sanitary experts fit persons for teaching Indians the principles of sanitation? Do the principles of sanitation which hold good in England hold good in India also? Even if we suppose that they do, will sanitary education alone remove insanitation from the country? Even the *Englishman* admits that scarcity of wholesome drinking water is the main cause of insanitation here, so that this must be removed. Then there is the food problem of which the principal point is adulteration. It is reform in these directions and not appointment of sanitary experts, which is at first required for the improvement of health in this country. Retrenchment in other departments of the Government is necessary for finding money for carrying out reforms. It is also necessary to elevate the morals of the people so that they may think highly of such acts as excavation of tanks and sinking of wells, and refrain from poisoning others by adulterating articles of food.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

DACCA PRAKAS,
May 19th, 1912.

39. The *Dacca Prakas* [Dacca] of the 19th May says that settlement operations in Bengal, in spite of their being undertaken with the best of intentions by the Government, are turning into veritable apples of discord. The paper does not believe what some people say about the motive of the authorities in introducing survey and settlement being really to create discord. But as matters stand at present, the effect of the operations is bound to be most harmful. Lord Carmichael is prayed to save the country from this great danger.

(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.

SATYA SANATAN
DHARMA,
May 21st, 1912.

40. The *Satya Sanatan Dharma* [Calcutta] of the 21st May says that the Railway authorities have stopped the supply of goods wagons to native traders at the instance and to the great advantage of Ralli Brothers. The journal says that the house gives large orders for grain at enhanced rates to native merchants who, finding it impossible to supply the same on the due date owing to the collusion referred to above, sell their goods at lower rates at the spot to the same house which then exports them *via* Karachi.

In this way the Rallis profit at the cost of local merchants, who are therefore advised to boycott both the Railway companies as well as Ralli Brothers.

41. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th May publishes a letter requesting that the weirs and bunds placed across the Eden Canal to facilitate the use of its waters for irrigation purposes, may be promptly taken off so that there may again be a steady flow of water along its bed, and the malaria in the neighbouring villages thereby removed.

The Eden Canal.

HITAVADI,
May 24th, 1912.

(h)—General.

42. Circumstances are proving, says the *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 20th May, that Bengal and Assam have got ideal rulers in Lord Carmichael and Sir Archdale Earle. Within the very short time that they have taken up the reins of the administration of the provinces, they have proved their love and sympathy for the people and respect for their views and aspirations. This is proved beyond doubt by Lord Carmichael's proposal to appoint a committee to consider the Dacca University Scheme, and Sir Archdale Earle's efforts to improve the conditions of roads establish light-railways and foster the cultivation of sugarcane in Assam. It is also said that Lord Carmichael has given up the idea of appointing a special educational officer in Eastern Bengal. Conditions for good government being so favourable, our duty will be to help the authorities with informations about our wants and grievances, and to co-operate with them directly and indirectly in matters concerning the administration of the country.

The good government in Bengal and Assam and the duty of the people.

DACCA GAZETTE,
May 20th, 1912.

43. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 24th May says that a conference of middle class men like the one of Zamindars recently held at Darjeeling, will give great satisfaction to the middle classes who form the backbone of the Empire. They ought not to be ignored in all things.

A conference of middle class men suggested.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
May 24th, 1912.

44. Referring to the new scheme of Provincial Settlement formulated by the Government of India, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 25th May says:—

The new Provincial Settlement.

BASUMATI,
May 25th, 1912.

Bengal is an object lesson proving the necessity of financial independence for the provinces. The silting up of flowing rivers and other sources of water-supply in Bengal, has turned the province into a play ground of death. The remedy lies in improving these sources at a large cost. This might have been done had the Government of Bengal enjoyed financial independence, and had large surplus revenues in its hand. The question of giving greater financial independence to Provincial Governments has been under the consideration of the Government of India for a long time. After the usual dilatoriness of the Government a scheme has been formulated, which, we are sorry to say, we are unable to support in all respects. In this scheme Provincial Governments have been empowered to levy taxes, but with the sanction of the Government of India, and to make loans for short terms from it. Thus full financial independence has not been granted to them. It is, however, a step in advance, and it is believed that in course of time the Government of India will see its way to enlarge the privilege now granted to them. The new scheme does not apply to the three new provinces of Bengal, Behar and Orissa and Assam, with which provisional Settlements have been made. Among other revenues, half of the irrigation revenue of the provinces of Bengal, and Behar and Orissa has been appropriated to the use of the Government of India. But so far as Bengal is concerned this revenue ought to be utilized in improving the condition of degenerated rivers.

45. On the same subject the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th May writes thus:—

Ibid.

HITAVADI,
May 24th, 1912.

The strange doings of the worthy disposers of India's destinies are often inscrutable. Their sayings raise the highest hopes in our minds, which their doings dash to the ground. The statement that there was to be a revision of the Provincial Settlements in accordance

with the terms of the report of the Hobhouse Commission, inspired in us hopes that at last a turn in the wheel of India's fortune had come, that at last the Local Governments were to have funds placed at their disposal which were to be spent in accordance with the needs of each province, on objects of public welfare, so that days of progress for India were before us. The actual facts of this revision, however, as set forth in the recent resolution are quite different. The existing settlements remain, only minor changes are made, while Local Governments lose some powers of expenditure they now possess.

We doubt whether the substitution for fixed assignments of growing shares of revenue is really going to benefit Provincial Governments. For the heads of Revenue now made over to them instead of being growing ones are likely to be stationary—they have already developed to the highest point possible. The new arrangements impose strict limits on provincial expenditure, Local Governments being no longer permitted to draw upon the Central Government for funds, when they have run through their own funds. They must depend on their own resources to improve their own services and departments. These Local Governments have been distinctly warned against permitting their expenditure to exceed their revenue. This means that they will not be able henceforth to undertake large schemes for the public good. Such schemes they would undertake if the Local Governments were permitted to raise loans in the local market and to impose local taxation. Of course, fresh taxation cannot well be borne by the people, so the new arrangements are not at all hopeful.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-
ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
May 23rd, 1912.

46. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May, remarks that the new arrangements

The new Provincial Settlement.

involve no decentralization, but a curtailment of the powers of Local Governments. Their liberties have been curbed in many directions. The Government of India evidently regards these Local Governments as so many foolish children. It is apprehensive lest they should exceed the provincial income in trying to satisfy provincial needs. But the question is, will the funds placed at the disposal of Provincial Governments satisfy their requirements? The heads of revenue assigned to Local Governments, are not by any means growing ones, but those which have developed to their highest point. The experience of the next few years can alone show how the provinces will fare under the new arrangements. In the meantime one can only say that very little of new powers of decentralization has been granted or effected by the new scheme; things may indeed be much worse under the new conditions than under the old. The Government of India now finds the need of retrenchment insistent, and if the new terms granted to Local Governments do not prove satisfactory, fresh taxation may become necessary, so that the people will be worse off in the future than in the past.

HITAVARTA,
May 19th, 1912.

47. The *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 19th May observes that the arrangement is not bad, and suggesting similar independence being granted to municipalities hopes that

Ibid.

the question will not escape the sharp eyes of Lord Hardinge.

HITVARTA,
May 19th, 1912

48. The *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 19th May, says the opportunity which is going to be offered by the constitution of Legislative Councils in Bihar and the Central

Provinces, should be availed of in extending the franchise to those who are being denied the same under the present regulations.

BIHAR BANDHU,
May 25th, 1912.

49. Seeing that the result of special franchise to Musalmans and zamindars has not been found productive of good results, inasmuch it has set the Hindus against

Ibid.

Muhammadans and rayats against zamindars, the *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipur] of the 25th May hopes that it will be withdrawn when the regulations are revised, or the right of voting will be regulated according to the number of members in each community.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
May 26th, 1912.

50. In the agitation going on at present in Bihar in respect of the privilege enjoyed by Musalmans of electing special representatives for the Legislative Council, as well as the right of voting in the general election, the

Hindu feeling on special rights
of Muhammadans.

Daily Bharat Mitra [Calcutta] of the 26th May reads signs of dissatisfaction among the Hindus at the undue favour shown to the Musalmans, and it is not surprised if there was good-will between the two communities so far because the Musalmans had been, since the Partition of Bengal, much in advance of their Hindu brethren in the matter of Government service, and had been enjoying preference in the District and Municipal Boards, and advantages in excess of those to which they are entitled in consideration of their number. But the eyes of the Hindus are now opening and there is every likelihood of a friction between the two communities. The paper, however, hopes the leaders will keep no stone unturned in keeping them united, but bearing in mind that so long as mutual confidence in each other is not secured, and the mind of the Hindus is not freed from the suspicion that the alliance with their Muhammadan brethren means constant loss to them, no alliance can be permanent.

51. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th May points out how lately in

A member of the Punjab Council ignorant of English.

the Punjab Legislative Council, one of the Members, Captain the Hon'ble Malik Mubariz Khan, professed his ignorance of English and wanted to

have the proceedings of the Council conducted in Urdu. The paper cannot understand why such people should be Members of the Legislature, and would not believe that competent English-knowing persons are not available for the Council.

52. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the

Resolution on reorganization of the sanitary services.

23rd May, in referring to the recent Government resolution on the reorganization of the sanitary services, remarks that Government may employ

sanitary experts if it likes, but it should first of all take steps to alleviate the poverty of the people, which is at the root of the prevailing insanitary conditions.

53. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th May says that it is glad that

Ibid.

there are to be more sanitary officers in the country. But it is doubtful if the programme of

changes outlined, will make for any real sanitary improvement in the country. For municipalities in this country are but few. What is wanted is a sanitary staff for the rural areas, working under district boards. Thus alone can cholera, malaria, etc., be eradicated from the country.

54. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 25th May says that the money

The scheme of importing lady doctors from England.

which has been sanctioned by the Government of India for importing lady doctors from England will be simply wasted. In a country where people

cannot procure quinine in fever, and females do not get the help of even midwives in childbirth, English lady doctors must be considered as useless luxury. Villages and not towns in India are in want of medical aid. This want cannot be removed by importing lady doctors from England. Has the arrangement for importing lady doctors from England been made in the interest of Indian ladies or in the interest of European ladies in India? If in the interest of the former, it will be much better served by the appointment of Indian lady doctors or midwives on small pay. English lady doctors will be considered by Indians as so many white elephants which they have been compelled to maintain to no purpose.

55. The *Satya Sanatan Dharma* [Calcutta] of the 21st May sarcastically

Ibid.

remarks:—It is all right. Surely the English-woman, too, should have some field to earn money

in India.

56. Dealing with the question of growing ill-health of the Indians, their

Degeneration of health in India/

premature old age and death during the last fifty years, the *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 19th May

attributes them to the blind imitation by the Indians of their European alien rulers in their mode of living which is utterly unsuited for the people of this country. As an instance tea-drinking and wearing stockings and clothes in this hot climate are quoted to show how injurious they are to health in India.

HITAVADI,
M. y 24th, 1912.

SRI SRI
VISHNU PRIYA-O-
ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
May 23rd, 1912.

HITAVADI,
May 24th, 1912.

BASUMATI,
May 25th, 1912.

SATYA SANATAN
DHARMA,
May 21st, 1912.

HITVARTA,
May 19th, 1912.

The paper concludes the article with the words, "what is the use of civilization which spoils the health."

SANJAY,
May 17th, 1912.

57. The *Sanjay* [Faridpur] of the 17th May, complains that although the price of coarse rice at Faridpur is still at least Rs. 3 annas 14 per maund the grain allowance of low paid Government servants at the place has been stopped. The attention of the Government is drawn to the matter?

TRIPURA HITAIISHI,
May 14th, 1912.

58. The *Tripura Hitaiishi* [Comilla] of the 14th May urges the necessity of establishing a subdivision at Murdanagar or thereabouts, under the Dankandi thana on account of the place being about 45 miles distant from Comilla, its present head quarters, and there being no railway or steamer communication between them. This distance from and want of communication with the headquarters, have made the place a haunt of thieves and dacoits, and those who are powerful find it easy to oppress the weak. These oppressors will no doubt object to the establishment of a subdivision at the place, but their voice ought not to carry any weight with the authorities in this matter.

BASUMATI,
May 26th, 1912.

59. Referring to Lord Ronaldshay's question and Mr. Ackland's reply in the House of Commons, on the subject of cultivation of opium in China, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 26th May, asks why India should not continue to export opium to China, so long as the Chinese Government cannot suppress the cultivation of the drug in their own country. The Government of India ought to have proposed that China should altogether cease to cultivate opium before India can stop exporting opium to that country. Will the sanctimonious crusaders against India's opium trade be now prepared to proclaim a crusade against ganja, cocaine, beer, brandy, whisky, toddy and such like things?

SATYA SANATAN DHARMA,
May 28th, 1912.

60. The *Satya Sanatan Dharma* [Calcutta] of the 28th May writes:—
In every other country its tariff is prescribed in consideration of its own advantage, but in India the interests of the countrymen are not cared for. Duties are imposed on or withdrawn from certain articles in view of the loss or gain of the countrymen of the alien rulers.

TIRHUT SAMACHAR,
May 23rd, 1912.

61. The *Tirhut Samachar* [Muzaffarpur] of the 23rd May learning that the proposal of improving the paper and printing of the currency notes is being considered in the India Office, asks if the question of Hindi finding a place on it has been shelved for ever.

III.—LEGISLATION.

BASUMATI
May 25th, 1912.

62. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 25th May takes exception to the fact that the Copyright Bill, as it has reached India, contains no provision for safeguarding the right of newspapers to telegrams published in them, and says that the Bill should be officially published in India and the views of the Indians on it should be consulted.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

BASUMATI,
May 26th, 1912.

63. Kashmir, writes the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 25th May, is a Native State and, so far as we know, Englishmen have no right to settle there. Why then has the Imperial Gazetteer written, "Economically again, the climatic conditions of the country are important, for it is here that European colonisation is to succeed if it succeeds anywhere in India; and it seems possible that with more facilities for occupation, Kashmir might become a White man's country"? Will not this cause alarm to the people of Kashmir?

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

64. A Musalman correspondent of the *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 24th May speaks of famine having broken out in Baishatta, Krishnagar, Ghosher Chak, Jaut, Panchgharia, Saltala, Kella Durganagar, Damdama, Kaorakhli and other villages under the Jaynagar thana in the 24-Parganas district. Most people are not getting meals even once every day or every other day. No loans are available. For some years past, the local oppressive zemindars have let in salt water into the fields for the sake of *jalkar* income, and thus destroyed crops. This, combined with the failure of crops last year, has brought about this famine.

MOSLEM HITASHI,
May 24th, 1912.

65. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th May emphatically protests against the alleged action of Mr. Jackson, Deputy Commissioner of Sylhet, in distributing only Rs. 650 out of the Rs. 6,600 placed at his disposal for relief among the famine-stricken population in the affected area and for the rest counselling the sufferers to seek work on the tea-plantations. The Tipperas and Kookies are, however, in spite of the strongest efforts at persuasions, disinclined to undertake such work on the plantation, which they regard as slavery. Let Government promptly take notice of Mr. Jackson's conduct and bring him to his senses. His conduct may be worthy of a friend of the planters, but it is most reprehensible, cruel and neglectful.

HITAVADI,
May 24th, 1912.

66. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 25th May draws the attention of the Government to the complaint published in the *Ranaghat Vartavah* newspaper to the effect that, in the Nadia district while a large fund raised by Mr. Ezekiel, Magistrate, for commemorating the memory of the late King-Emperor by excavating wells and giving them the name of Edward Wells is lying unutilized, villagers are suffering from intense scarcity of water. No more delay, concludes the *Vartavah*, ought to be made in excavating these wells.

BASUMATI,
May 25th, 1912.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

67. Referring to Mr. Balfour's suggestion of the formation of an Imperial Parliament with representatives of Britain and her colonies, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May says:—

SANJIVANI,
May 23rd, 1912.

India has been left out of the scheme. Where does the Imperial power of England lie without India? How long will this power last if India ceases to buy her goods?

68. The *Satya Sanatan Dharma* [Calcutta] of the 21st May says that the excuse of the Government put forward frequently that the Indian people, divided as they are into numerous classes and creeds, so different from, and in some cases even hostile to, each other, and giving exclusive importance to their own communal interests, cannot be recognized as a nation, has some truth in it.

SATYA SANATAN
DHARMA,
May 21st, 1912.

The Hindus and Muhammadans, Jains and Sikhs, Christians and others,—all Indians should take a lesson from this (excuse of the Government), adds the journal. Their mutual difference is the main cause of their political fall. The time has come when we should (for the protection of our rights) unite, and unite without delay, like the people of Spain and other countries.

69. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th May expresses astonishment at the suggestion that Reuter published an incorrect report of Mr. Montagu's reference to Musalmans in his speech on the India Bill. Whom are people to believe in matters like this if not Reuter? And if Reuter published incorrect reports, he is unfit to be entrusted with the duty of supplying news to the world. Most probably, Reuter's report in question was the correct report of Mr. Montagu's speech, while the latter suggestion is a mere after-thought.

MUHAMMADI,
May 24th, 1912.

However that may be, considering that Mr. Montagu's speech as reported by Reuter, has wounded the feelings of ten crores of Musalmans in India, it is but meet that, if the report is incorrect, it should be publicly contradicted by the authorities.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
May 26th, 1912.

70. 'The *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 25th May in noticing the words "The strongest bulwark against the rising tides of Hindu ascendancy" in the protest of the All-Indian Moslem League against Mr. Montagu's remarks that it is not right to say that all the Muhamamdans of India constitute a homogeneous nation, the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 25th May says that it fully endorses Mr. Montagu's observation and asks if the League means to call the Hindus disloyal, and reminds the League that the Government has not yet forgotten the Wahabi rebellion.

NAYAK,
May 26th, 1912.

71. In referring to the expression "bulwark against the rising tide of Hindu ascendancy," the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 25th May writes:—
"The offended pride of Moslems."

We understand this expression in simple language to mean that the Hindu community is actively engaged in a seditious attempt to overturn the British Government and that the British would certainly have succumbed to these attacks and that it is the loyal Musalmans whose existence alone saved the situation. So Mr. Montagu, boy as he is, should not talk nonsense and thereby goad Moslems who are fond of the British into a fury. If this interpretation is correct, we must say that the Moslem League has said what it had to say in a most dirty fashion. In attempting to increase its importance in the eyes of Government, it has made a most improper remark.

We are not opponents of the Musalmans community, rather we have always been and will always be their supporters in our own humble way. But we are opposed to sham, whether it is on the part of Hindus or on the part of Moslems. We are opposed to men whether they be Hindus or be Moslems, who ignore past Indian history and national glory and try to imitate things European, to mould their individual lives on the European model. Indian Moslems should remember that, though Moslems, India is the land of their birth, that they are Indian, subjects of the Emperor of India. Mr. Justice Hasan Imam said some time ago that Indian Moslem pilgrims at Hedjaz were addressed as Hindus by their Persian and Arab co religionists. Wherever they may be, they cannot shake off their Indian origin. So it will not be right for Indian Moslems to quarrel with the Hindus. Since they must live within the same walls, in the same village, in the same way, bound by the chain of the same servitude, it behoves them to live on terms of amity with the Hindus. But we shall not blame Moslems if in competing for posts in the public service and in obtaining political rights, they seek to gain their ends by a game of bluff in primero.

We know ourselves and so do our English rulers how far each of us is immaculate. All attachment and respect are based on self-interest. "Loyalty based on intelligent self-interest—" such a loyalty is calculated to please both the rulers and the ruled. Favours from a ruler depend on his whims. When Sir Bampfylde Fuller petted the Moslem Community of Eastern Bengal as his favourite wife, he spoke sincerely. Now the whim is on them, it subserves their self-interest and things go on well, so the rulers prefer Moslems as their favourite wife. When, however, by a turn of the wheel of time, Hindus come again to be in the good graces of their rulers, and to make things smooth for them, though now in disfavour, they will then be favourites of the rulers again. See if this prophecy does not come true in time. Brethren, do not be misled by a temporary enjoyment of favour into irritating your neighbours, with whom your relations are bound to be of a more permanent nature. Rather let Hindus and Moslems combine their interests and try to live amicably in future. Go on dancing as you will, but always keep an eye on the ground beneath your feet on which you are dancing. So only will you be able to save the situation. And if you are captivated by European civilization into losing all your bearings, both yourselves and ourselves will equally be losers.

72. Referring to Lord Minto's support of the position taken up by the institute of journalists against Lord Crewe's suggestion that Anglo-Indian journals might be prosecuted under the Press Act, the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May sarcastically remarks:—

At last our minds have been laid at rest. Truly has His Lordship said, can black sedition be committed by White men.

73. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 28th May writes:—

"Black and White."

We are opposed to shams, bitter enemies of humbuggism. This we have said often and we say it again. We shall explain why we say it now. Lord Crewe in the House of Lords, in the course of his speech supporting the transfer of the Capital to Delhi and the undoing of the Partition of Bengal, said that if these changes had not been kept secret and had been announced beforehand, the Anglo-Indian Press in Calcutta might have raised such a serious agitation as to render necessary the institution of prosecutions against them for sedition. As soon as this had been said by the Secretary of State, the European Press people of Calcutta wrote out a strong protest and sent it up to Lord Crewe. A copy of it was despatched to Lord Minto as well. Lord Minto in his reply has hinted that Europeans can never be guilty of sedition—that he has full sympathy with the protest they have made. On the other hand Lord Crewe has said that the Press laws may be applied equally against all—that if they overstep the mark, Europeans must suffer.

Well and good. But think all the same how much distinction is still observed in practice between the Black and the White. Lest in a fit of excitement, the European newspaper-people should get entangled in the web of the law, Lord Crewe kept the proposals to remove the Capital and to modify the Partition, secret. On the other hand, Bengal was partitioned in defiance of the protests of its 70 millions of people, their righteous wailings were paid no heed to, and Sir Bampfylde Fuller, as though to goad the Bengali-Hindus into a frenzy, began to pet and fondle the Mussalmans. The consequence was that many amongst us overstepped the mark and were thrown into jail in batches, some even suffering the extreme penalty of the law. At that time certainly no consideration whatever was shown for Bengali writers. Bengalis follow Englishmen like shadows—they are propagating English civilisation and education wholeheartedly, in utter disregard of their spiritual and temporal welfare—that such Bengalis should not be thrown into a frenzy—this thought never occurred either to Morley or Minto or Crewe or Asquith. The *Englishman*, which is now offended with Lord Crewe, indulged in the pastime of mocking the Bengalis and goading them into fury. At that time certainly none spared a thought for the Bengalis. There is an enormous difference existing in practice between the treatment meted out to the White and that to the Black. You will not be able to deceive us with your specious sayings. We are not taken in by sham.

The *Englishman* is furious at Lord Crewe's reply, and naturally so. Every European is bound to get angry with one who, upsetting political truths, seeks to take shelter merely under cover of a sham. Our view is that both Lord Crewe and the *Englishman* are right in what each says. Lord Crewe must speak with an eye to all sides of a question, and in set form—so he has spoken in a way in which no holes can be picked. But fine words butter no parsnips; where we Bengalis are concerned the slightest act of backsliding on our part leads to a plentiful crop of prosecutions for sedition; where the *Englishman* and the *Statesman*, however, are found indulging in language of unmeasured abuse, they are simply reprimanded in private but not prosecuted for sedition. Certainly no Englishman can ever be an enemy of British rule in India—so no English writer can commit sedition. This is an idea which cannot easily be got over. Let the *Englishman* be reassured; there is no political party in England strong enough to curb the rights of papers like it. For ourselves, we Bengalis also claim to be "children of the British conquest"; so that no party would have suffered if we had been given the treatment due to imitators of the English.

The fact is, we cannot bear heat reflected from grains of sand. During Sir Edward Baker's rule there were a few of such grains of sand which had

NAYAK,
May 23rd, 1912.

NAYAK,
May 28th, 1912.

become terribly hot. And so, too, during Sir Andraw Fraser's regime. So we felt constrained to write with some vigour in those days; otherwise we are strongly attached to British and Civilian rule. Most English Civilians will feel ashamed to know of the measures of secret oppression of which we have been the victims during the past six or seven years. Mr. Stevenson-Moore, if he cared to know, might know a great deal including the reason why he himself has been cheated. Personally, we never approached any official with our tale of woe, but have silently suffered everything. And it is because we know how to suffer silently, that we cannot resist the temptation of occasionally speaking out as now.

NAYAK,
May 29th, 1912.

74. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 29th May writes:—

Black and White.

We like Lord Hardinge because His Excellency has brought White and Black to the same level. By removing the Capital from Calcutta, he has reduced the arrogant European community of that City to the level of the Black, and humbled the pride of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce: whereas by reuniting Bengal and raising it to a Governorship he has saved the honour of the Bengalis. It is for this reason that we honour and love Lord Hardinge. Lately, Lord Crewe, too, has done something which equally entitles him to our warm love and admiration. For his Lordship has brought the Indian Press and the Anglo-Indian Press to the same level. He has said that the law is the same for both classes of papers, White or Black, that both will be punished if they overstep the bounds laid down by the law. He has also said that the new Press Law is not meant merely to curb sedition and anarchy, but is elastic enough for other uses too, which ought to put all newspapers on their guard.

All this has thrown the Anglo-Indian newspapers of Calcutta into a fury. There is first the lamp of Chowringhee—the *Statesman*—with its new coat of immaculacy put on since the days of Sir Edward Baker. This journal, started and hitherto flourishing on Indian support, has now been tempted by mercenary considerations into becoming so loyal that it is ashamed even to mix with Indians. Tuesday's town edition of this *Statesman* publishes an editorial—a perusal of which sets one a-fire. If this article is not seditious, we do not know what sedition is. To call Lord Minto's Government "perjured", to call the present Government incompetent, generally to bring Lord Hardinge's methods of rule into public contempt, is not all this seditious and does it not come within the purview of the new law?

The *Englishman*, too, writes in the same strain as the *Statesman*, but its language is more restrained and polite. This journal, under its new editor, has been distinctly improving, and it has ceased to deserve the epithet of the *Fishwife* of Koilaghat we formerly applied to it. Now-a-days we often find ourselves in agreement with its leading articles. It never approached its contemporary of the *Statesman* in the violence of its protest against the Delhi changes. Compared with the language the *Statesman* has used, the article *Kimascharryamatahparam* for which the *Daily Hitavadi* suffered, was perfectly innocent. That paper suffered because of the personal grudge of Sir Edward Baker. If Lord Carmichael is to be impartial, he should demand a security of Rs. 10,000 from the *Statesman* also.

The *Indian Daily News* has spoken on this question most reasonably. It recognizes that if the law is to be there, it should apply equally to all. It therefore suggests that efforts should be made to get it removed from the statute-book. But who is to make this effort? And will it succeed either?

Lastly, comes the *Empire*, which points out that it apprehended from the very beginning that a law like this was bound to harm both Englishmen and Indians, and it therefore counsels a combination of the two communities and a united effort to get it rescinded.

Now, all this is verily the impossible coming to pass. The truth is, when self-interests are hurt, one has to think of changing one's old ways. Bengal was partitioned, Hindus and Moslems began quarrelling. Hindu widows were dragged out of their homes. Hindu idols were smashed up, Hindu homes were pillaged and that was why a spirit of sedition manifested itself on all sides, and assassinations were committed. The unofficial Anglo-Indians here so long had been basking in the sunshine of official favour; if we had enjoyed a tithe of that favour, we Indians would have been ten times more loyal. The outburst

of loyalty following the Royal visit and the recent territorial changes, is proof of this. Now that your interests, pecuniary and otherwise, are jeopardised by the transfer of the Capital, you are terribly incensed. The same reasons which led some of us into sedition may very well lead some of you, too, to sedition. Only in your case the authorities will be more cautious and considerate in instituting prosecution, and not be so indiscriminate and heartless as they were when Indian papers were concerned. Were the *Statesman* an Indian paper it would be suffering condign punishment now.

One word in conclusion. Considering how you English papers treated Indians during the days of Lords Curzon and Minto, no self-respecting Indian will ever think of combining with you. What efforts, for instance, the *Statesman* did not make to bring the *Bengalee* and the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* into trouble? Do you remember those days? Atone for that arrogance now. Both are subjects of the same King, subject to the same laws. Remember that.

75. Reviewing the political situation of Bihar, and then pointing out what it calls its duty in that direction, the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 25th May, notices

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MITRA,
May 25th, 1912.

the superior importance obtained by the Muhammadans there owing to the presence, in their community, of men like the Right Hon'ble Mr. Amir Ali, Hon'ble Mr. Ali Imam, Justice Hasan Imam the Hon'ble Mr. Mazharul Huq, etc., and the absence of any educated Hindus to match them so far, although men like Babus Shiva Shankar Sahay, and Tarini Prasad of Bhagalpur and Babu Gajadhar Prasad of Patna may be mentioned as having attained a name, but they do not belong to the Young Bihari class which may count among its members the Hon'ble Sachchidanand Singh, who has got a name and Mr. Parmeshvar Lal, Babu Rajendra Prasad and others who are yet rising. The Muhammadan influence, is therefore, stronger in Bihar although they form a minority and have few educated men among them. Educated Biharis have taken Bengal for their ideal in politics, and hence we see they are agitating for representation in the Legislative Council and securing Government appointments. This is the result of their education, and there is nothing to find fault with in it. But one thing deserves consideration. The Bengali community has become useless by English education and imitation of English civilization. Young Biharis should not, therefore, walk in the footsteps of Bengal by adopting English habits in their food and dress, but they should take a lesson from the English habits of industry, spirit, skilfulness and patriotism. The paper is glad that young Bihar is trying to imitate the good in the English. The object of the Biharis being the improvements of their country and her people they will have to look into their past history and present condition. Attention to the educated class alone will not do. Both Bengal and Bihar enjoy Permanent Settlement, but Bengal peasants are far better off than their brethren in Bihar, and more attention is paid to education in the former province than in the latter. Bihar should see and examine why it is so, and then she will discover the path of her duty.

76. The *Kalyani* [Magura] of the 22nd May, writes:—

KALYANI,
May 22nd, 1912.

The *swadeshi* spirit: its necessity.

There is an impression prevailing among some people that the *swadeshi* agitation was raised because of the Partition of Bengal; so that now that Bengal has been reunited, the *swadeshi* spirit is not much necessary. These people are generally old men, whom the efforts of past five or six years seem to have tired out, who believe that *swadeshi* has done its work, who as soon as ever they hear a single sweet word from the authorities, think it their duty to have done with *swadeshi* for good, losing all power to raise their heads against wrong-doing. All this is due to a want of capacity to have a sufficiently lofty conception of the greatness of our own country. If we recognize that *swadeshi* aims ultimately at the attainment of self-Government, we shall see that there is much more yet remaining for us to do. Our future work should mainly consist in solving the problems of male ascendancy over females, Brahman ascendancy over the other castes, and so on. Renunciation, sympathy and knowledge—these are to be the bases on which a happy future is again to be built up for our country.

SATYA SANATAN
DHARMA,
May 21st, 1912.

77. The *Satya Sanatan Dharma* [Calcutta] of the 21st May, has the following piece of poetry:—

A Poem.

THE LIVING NATION.

Where ever shines the Sun of Liberty,
The shadow of dark dependence is nowhere seen,
The bracing, fragrant, cool breeze of Liberty
Gives comfort to the body burnt by the fire of dependence,
Where banks of cloud are pouring down the nectar of Liberty,
Instantly washing off the poison heaps of independence,
Where Liberty herself has assumed the beautiful appearance of
spring,
Where sing in high pitch all the patriotic birds.

"Sharma."

(To be continued.)

SATYA SANATAN
DHARMA,
May 28th, 1912.

78. The *Satya Sanatan Dharma* [Calcutta] of the 28th May writes:—

The greatest liars in the world.

The greatest liars in the world who perjure themselves on oath, are to be found in Great Britain.

In support of this (statement) we quoted in a back number the opinion of a White Judge. It is to be hoped that the Bible would come to India after it has spent some days in washing off the stains on its own skirts, for it is in a very false position these days. The Missionary preachers now leave the bazars (where they preach) overtaken by shame and their face, although, White is covered with soot. Will Christian Associations give attention to our suggestion?

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA.
May 23rd, 1912.

79. After explaining the efforts of European Powers to maintain what is called the "Balance of Power" and the history of the present alliances formed by them the *Daily*

Bharat Mitra [Calcutta] of the 23rd May, gives the substance of the article in the *Civil and Military Gazette*, the *Pioneer* and the *Englishman* on the present preparations for war, the probability of a Russian invasion of India in the near future and the activities on the North-west frontiers of India, where different tribesmen are stocking arms and ammunitions by purchase or theft from British camps.

URIYA PAPERS.

UTKALDIPIKA,
May 18th, 1912.

80. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 18th May writes to the following effect regarding the Orissa Tenancy Bill.

Comments on the operations of maintenance of records and revision settlement.

The zamindars and raiyats of Orissa had a breathing time of it when the Bill did not receive the assent of His Excellency the Governor-General;

but as the operations of maintenance of records and revision settlement are still continuing, and the settlement officers having pitched their camps in the mufassal are still harassing both the raiyats and zamindars by calling upon them to attend their camps, the latter cannot attend to their legitimate duties. If these operations detain them for some time every year, what is the good of fixing a term for a settlement? It is a matter for regret and surprise that the new Government (like the old one Government of Bengal) cannot realize this state of things!

UTKALDIPIKA,
May 18th, 1912.

81. Commenting on the press communique recently issued by the India

Comments on a press communique of the India Government.

Government, giving reasons for withholding assent to the Orissa Tenancy Bill, the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 18th May remarks that the people of Orissa

entertained high hopes that when big officials were engaged in preparing an agrarian law for Orissa, they would certainly bring out one which would give satisfaction to everybody. But instead of this, these officials tried more to keep their prestige and dignity intact. Providence always helps the weak, and

it was He who, through the instrumentality of His Excellency the Governor-General, stood in the way of this legislation being carried through. When we think of this we are reminded of the *Pauranic* legend, "Rescue of the elephant." As the orders of the Governor-General expressly point out that a law fitted to the condition of Orissa is to be framed by the new Legislative Council another law is presumed to be enacted or at least the one passed by the Bengal Council is to be amply modified.

82. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 16th May strongly protests against the establishment of a High Court either at Patna or at Ranchi for the Province of Bihar and Orissa. It remarks that the disadvantages which such a High Court would entail to Orissa, would outweigh the good it would bring.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,
May 16th, 1912.

RAJENDRA CHANDRA SASTRI,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 1st June 1912.

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REPORT (PART II)
ON
NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL
FOR THE
Week ending Saturday, 1st June 1912.

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**LIST OF NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED AND DEALT WITH
BY THE BENGAL SPECIAL DEPARTMENT.**

[As it stood on 1st January 1912.]

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	"Amrita Basar Patrika"	Calcutta	Daily	Kali Prasanna Chatterji, age 48, Brahmin	1,500 to 4,000
2	"Bengalee" ...	Ditto	Do.	Surendra Nath Banerji and Kali Nath Roy.	6,500 to 8,500
3	"Hindoo Patriot"	Ditto	Do.	Srish Chandra Sarbadhikari, age 44, and Kailash Chandra Kanjilal, pleader, Small Cause Court, also contributes.	800 to 1,000
4*	"Indian Echo"	Ditto	Weekly	Kunju Behary Bose, age 45, Kayastha...	600
5	"Indian Empire"	Ditto	Do.	Kishori Mohan Banerji and H. Dutt	2,000
6	"Indian Mirror"	Ditto	Daily	Satyendra Nath Sen	1,000 to 1,500
7	"Indian Nation"	Ditto	Weekly	Noresh Chandra Sarbadhikari and Srish Chandra Sarbadhikari.	1,000
8	"Musalman"	Ditto	Do.	A. Rasul and M. Rahman	1,000 to 1,500
9	"Reis and Bayyet"	Ditto	Do.	Jogesh Chandra Dutt, age 61 years	400
10	"Telegraph"	Ditto	Do.	Satyendra Kumar Bose	2,000
11	"Comrade"	Ditto	Do.	Mr. Mahomed Ali, B.A. (Oxon.), age 30 years.	2,500
12	"Herald"	Dacca	Do.	Proys Nath Sen	.. ..
13	"East"	Do.	Bi-weekly	.....	.....

* Has not been published for the last six months, and most probably it will not be published again.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

855. Commenting on the war, the *Mussalman* writes:—"The acquiescence of the Powers in the Italian brigandage has encouraged the Italian freebooters to commit

MUSSALMAN.
24th May 1912.

The war.
further depredations in Turkish territories, and moreover Tripoli having proved invincible to them, they cannot but make a show of their power by random attacks here and there in order to maintain their national prestige and, if possible, to overawe Turkey to submission. . . . The Ottoman Government is of course sufficiently strong at home, but unfortunately it is not so in its outlying dominions, and if Turkey does not take early steps to make her position strong wherever she has territories, the rapacity of the European Powers will have to be keenly felt by her and she will gradually be shorn of all her possessions which are not under the immediate control of the central government. International morality is a myth in Europe, and any reliance on the good sense of the European concert will not only not help Turkey, but will be positively prejudicial to her interests as a Power. . . . The constitutional government is in its infancy, and the intriguing section of the European Powers has been leaving no stone unturned to embarrass the new régime. The rebellions in Albania and elsewhere were or are the outcome of their fomentation, and the Italian brigandage is the most daring and shameless of their attempts to damage the power of Turkey. The situation has become intolerable. The silence of the other Powers is significant. . . . The British Government has a duty to discharge in this connection, and it is quite opportune that the London branch of the All India Moslem League has invited the attention of the Foreign Secretary to the seriousness of the situation that is most likely to be created in India and elsewhere and has urged upon him the necessity of intervention on the part of Britain. . . . The intervention of the Powers may of course bring about an easy solution, but if they do not intervene, Turkey under the constitutional government is bound to be gradually strong and eventually she will, by the help of God, maintain her glory and prestige by baffling her godless enemies."

856. In the course of an article on European diplomacy and the war, the *Comrade* writes that a persistent rumour has grown up of late that Anglo-Turkish relations are moving rapidly in the direction of a formal *entente*. Such a consummation would be welcomed by all Moslems, though the paper hopes it would not be the result of the rumoured "deal" about Egypt. However, in spite of the absence of all disinterested desire amongst the Great Powers to help Turkey in the conclusion of a peace that would be truly honourable, it is still possible to expect that they will suppress Russian menace as well as its primary cause and effect, the Italian hooliganism in the Aegean, for the protection of the most vital interests of Europe. The British Government is most fitted, by virtue of its naval supremacy, to intervene with effect. In view of the manifold dangers likely to affect British commercial and political interests that have emerged on the scene, and which drew forth one of its few strong leaders from the *Times*, the journal does not see if the obligations to maintain British neutrality any longer exist. The declaration of Egyptian neutrality was a mistake about which no satisfactory explanation has been given.

COMRADE.
25th May 1912.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a.—Police.

857. The *Telegraph* brings to notice that the sanction to the continuance of the Special Branch of the C. I. D. will expire next month. There is no longer any sign to indicate the existence of anarchy in the country, and even on the Government's own showing there is considerable improvement in the situation. All the same, the paper believes, Lord Carmichael may not

TELEGRAPH.
25th May 1912.

deem it desirable to abolish the Special Branch at once and take upon himself the entire responsibility should there be any recrudescence of disorder and unrest. Everyone piously hopes that there should be no such recrudescence either in the near or in the distant future, but beyond this pious hope it would not certainly be safe to go. Naturally His Excellency might not, therefore, like taking the risk so soon after his assumption of office when he is hardly acquainted with the real situation, though the journal may take its oath and say many are the people who must be wasting reams of paper by seeking to impress their individual hobbies on the mind of the new Governor, because this dodge of foisting spurious public opinion has been practised by some of our public men every time a new ruler comes to the land, though only to be detected in a short time but never to be wise on that score. The paper suggests to His Excellency that there would be no harm if the army of informers and spies who now swarm the land and not only cause unnecessary irritation and unrest but press heavily on the resources of the Government, were sent away. They are doing no good either to the community or to the Government. The public press is unanimous in voting their dismissal, and yet they are being maintained without any cogent reason for it.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
25th May 1912.

858. On the same subject, the *Hindoo Patriot* writes that for its own part The Special Branch of the C. I. D. it does not think that there is the slightest justification for the retention of the department any longer. The Royal visit has stirred the loyalty of the people. There is no longer any unrest prevailing in the country. The so-called extremists have been converted into law-abiding and peaceful citizens. Why, then, should the C. I. D. be allowed to absorb a large portion of the revenue of the country?

BENGALIEE,
25th May 1912.

859. Since the modification of the partition, writes the *Bengalee*, a new era has dawned in the country, a new spirit of hope and contentment has been engendered, and peace reigns where before there was unrest and excitement. The new age needs a new policy; and no one is better fitted to inaugurate it than the respected Head of the present Government of Bengal. The public believe that His Excellency, if he so wishes it, can remove a great hardship from the people in the Eastern districts, among whom a punitive police force has been quartered, for which drastic measure there was not the shadow of a justification. The quartering of a punitive police force was one of the favourite weapons of the now defunct Government of East Bengal for terrorising the people. That Government is gone; its traditions and its policy should be buried in oblivion. No cause of irritation should now be permitted to linger, and all traces of the unhappy past should be blotted out of view.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
25th May 1912.

860. With reference to the police torture case, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that the methods of the police are in need of a thorough and radical reform.

As a simple remedial measure, the paper would specially urge upon the authorities the imperative necessity of making some suitable provision for the daily inspection, so far as possible, of the under-trial prisoners and other persons in police custody by a responsible and respectable body of visitors, preferably non-official.

INDIAN MIRROR,
26th May 1912.

861. Referring to the police torture case, the *Indian Mirror* writes:—

"There is no doubt that the result of the case will have a beneficial effect upon the lower ranks of the police. It is unfortunate that an officer in the position of Heelis should have been involved in the affair, but this just shows how careful officers should be in controlling the subordinate staff."

The police torture case.

BENGALIEE,
26th May 1912.

862. With reference to the police torture case, and another case of extortion by the police at Dacca, the *Bengalee* commends the zeal and readiness with which the offenders were brought to justice. While congratulating the Government on the attitude they have taken up in these cases, the journal points out that for the change in their outlook which this attitude indicates, the credit rests in no small measure with the small band of reformers both in India and England who have persistently pressed the question on the attention of the public as well as the authorities, and of whom Mr. Mackarness

Government and allegations
against the police.

has, perhaps, been the most conspicuous figure in recent years. Mr. Mackarness's pamphlet may have been proscribed, but the moral victory has from the beginning rested with him.

863. With regard to the question of police improvement, Mr. D. E.

The police.

Wacha proposes in the *Indian Mirror* that constables should be drawn from a better class. The poorer classes, who send thousands of their sons to school to pass the Matriculation examination, are those most suitable whence to recruit. Hundreds fail every year and fidget about for employment on Rs. 15 and Rs. 20 a month. These have some education. They have enough natural intelligence to discharge infinitely better their functions and responsibilities, if drafted as policemen. They have, again, a rudimentary notion of right and wrong and of the evils of corruption. That would mean that the pay of the constable should be raised to Rs. 15 or Rs. 20 a month.

INDIAN MIRROR,
28th May 1912.

864. In the opinion of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, the reason why the Indian

Ibid.

policeman is so much disposed to tyranny is not because there is some ingrained or inherent disposition in him to play the tyrant, but because he is subject to conditions quite other than those that obtain in England. He is less educated, much less paid, and much more zealously shielded from the influence of a healthy public opinion. Lastly, there (in England) efforts to promote the discipline, the efficiency, and the *morale* of the police proceed *pari passu* with those to develop manliness and vigour amongst the nation at large. The deplorable fact cannot be denied that the same conditions do not prevail here, nor are serious efforts made to bring them about.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
29th May 1912.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

865. The *Hindoo Patriot* regrets that such a momentous occasion as the

Political prisoners.

Imperial Durbar at Delhi should not have been signalized by an amnesty to political prisoners. It was expected that the young men who had been incarcerated during the past few years for political offences would be released during the Durbar at Delhi. The paper is sorry that this anticipation has not been realized. But it is not yet too late to rectify the error, and it hopes that something will be done in this direction soon.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
24th May 1912.

The case of Mr. Tilak is referred to, which case, the paper asserts, stands on a different footing. The jury who tried him was composed of three Parsees and six Europeans: the former found him not guilty, while the latter brought in the verdict of guilty. The journal hopes that Lord Hardinge will be pleased to take Mr. Tilak's case into his special consideration.

866. In connection with the police torture case, *Reis and Rayyet*

Administration of criminal justice.

writes:—"In spite of many adverse circumstances which attended it in the near and remote past, the administration of criminal justice has, on the whole, undergone a decided change for the better. The present dispassionate judgment will considerably help to further that end still more. An able and impartial Judge who can hold the scales evenly between man and man irrespective of race is not only an essential ornament to the judiciary but, remotely speaking, is a strong and natural political link which connects humanity with progress and order—the end of man. Justice is said to be blind, but the person administering it need not be so."

REIS AND RAYYET,
25th May 1912.

867. In the course of an article on the "Future Control of the High Courts," the *Bengalee* states that it is in favour of the suggestion that a ministry of justice should be created. This, of course, would involve further expense, and the public expenditure has within recent years grown by leaps and bounds. But the administration of justice is a matter of such vital importance that we are almost justified in saying that no expense can be regarded as too high for a purpose which would add to its efficiency.

The future control of the High Courts.

BENGALIEE,
26th May 1912.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
27th May 1912.

868. When Mr. Chidambaram Pillay, writes the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, was convicted of sedition and sentenced to transportation, out came the Government of Lord Minto with a weapon from its arsenal of orders and circulars forbidding the removal to the Andamans of persons sentenced for transportation for a term only, thereby making hard labour compulsory with them. It hopes public opinion will be roused to the necessary pitch and not rest till this unwarrantable interference by the Executive Government with judicial sentences is put a stop to. As a rule, it was the District Magistrates who meddled with the judicial independence of the Subordinate Magistrates. And both the public and the Government were seriously contemplating to take measures for putting down this evil. But now comes the great Government itself with a circular which, as stated above, is virtually a direct interference, not with the judicial independence of the Subordinate Magistrates, but with the decision of the High Court itself!

It would be interesting to know, by the bye, if the above circular order has been requisitioned in the case of political offenders only or of all classes of offenders, political as well as non-political, who are sentenced to transportation for definite terms. The journal imagines the liberal Government of Lord Hardinge does not sympathise with the reactionary procedure of its predecessor.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
27th May 1912.

869. With reference to a question put by Mr Keir Hardie in the House of Commons, asking the Under-Secretary of State for India to show the number of death sentences passed in India during the year 1911, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that it is the conviction in India that but for the High Courts, many innocent persons would have been hanged, and that it has been trying to impress this fact upon the attention of the rulers for years now. The matter should engage the best consideration of both Government and the High and Chief Courts.

(c) — Jails.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
28th May 1912.

870. In the course of a lengthy article in which it differentiates between the treatment of political prisoners in England and in India, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—"We must say, the punishment inflicted on the suffragettes is a mere flea-bite compared to what is meted out to political offenders in this country. Fancy young men are treated here as hardened criminals simply for writing some inflammatory but harmless articles, or delivering speeches on the platform to which no Englishman in England would pay any serious attention. Individuals as well as nations can never escape the hand of retributive justice. If you treat foreign subjects unkindly, you will be led in due course to treat your own kith and kin in the same way. Freedom at home and slavery abroad are an anomaly."

(d) — Education.

EAST,
17th May 1912.

871. In an article on this subject, the *East* writes that the Muhammadan leaders are mindful of their duty and are in a position to be able to think for themselves. But quite contrary is the case with the Hindu leaders and the Hindu representatives of the Press; for, while the former follow the leading of the Calcutta politicians and cannot yet independently think for themselves having regard to the interests of their own people, the latter generally echo the political views of those of their prototypes in Calcutta to whom no improvement of East Bengal commends itself if it be deemed to prove detrimental to their political and personal interests.

MUSSALMAN,
24th May 1912.

872. Reverting to the Calcutta Madrassa scandal, the *Mussalman* affirms that it has often protested against the retention of the post of Principal in the Calcutta Madrassa, for when he has no tuition duties, what is the use of maintaining an ornamental figure-head on a princely salary and with a palatial house? and when that

Principal cannot properly supervise the affairs of the institution and prevent the prevailing abuses, the case for the abolition of the post becomes all the stronger. If a Principal is at all to be retained, a pliant tool in the hands of his subordinates will never do. The present Principal may be a good man, but a good man is not necessarily competent.

873. Commenting on the Commission which has been appointed by the Dacca University Commission. Government to consider the proposed Dacca University, the *Telegraph* expresses its thanks to the Government for making an effort to ascertain the views of the public on the matter. But it cannot compliment the authorities on selecting Mr. Nathan as President of the Commission. The public have been literally staggered by the news, coming as it does so soon after the Jagannath College imbroglio, in which Mr. Nathan has played an autocratic part more suited to the Fullerian régime than the administration of the province by so large-hearted and sympathetic a ruler as Lord Carmichael. The journal was confidently looking forward to justice being done both to the third year student and the Professor of Physics who has been summarily dismissed without as much as being given an opportunity to meet the charges or even to know them on a secret report which none but Mr. Nathan had the privilege to read. The satisfaction that the appointment of the Commission gave to the public has thus been neutralised by the selection of Mr. Nathan as President of the body.

TELEGRAPH,
25th May 1912.

874. The *Bengalee* is surprised to find that Sir Ashutosh Mukharji has not been appointed a seat in the Dacca University Commission. It would like to know something of the secrets of the prison-house. To constitute a University Commission in Bengal without Sir Ashutosh Mukharji as a member is to enact the play of Hamlet with the part of the Prince left out. Was he at all approached on the subject? If so, what was his reply? Of course it was obvious from the outset that the Vice-Chancellor could not act as a member of the Commission with Mr. Nathan as its President. The journal misses likewise the name of Sir Gurudas Banarji, a prince among educationists. Was he invited to sit on the Commission?

BENGALER,
29th May 1912.

875. Referring to the same subject, the *Indian Mirror* reserves its comments on the Resolution, but hastens to say that it regards the constitution of the Committee as unexceptional.

INDIAN MIRROR,
30th May 1912.

876. In the course of its comments upon the Dacca University Commission, the *Bengalee* writes that the Government, being pledged in a sort of way, something has to be done, and it is being done with as much caution as the circumstances will permit. In any case the paper hopes it will be open to the Committee to suggest, if it thinks fit, the creation of a technological or an agricultural University at Dacca. It may not be within the strict terms of the reference made to them, but there is nothing to prevent their making this digression upon a cognate matter.

BENGALER,
30th May 1912.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

877. Referring to the temporary vacancy in the Chairmanship of the Corporation, the *Bengalee* hopes that no final decision has been arrived at, and that the statement made by the Chairman that Mr. Payne would officiate, was premature. In all cases of short leave the Vice-Chairman has been known to officiate for the Chairman. In the present case, therefore, it is incumbent on the authorities to give the officiating appointment to Mr. Mukharji, because Mr. Payne, who is being talked of in connection with the appointment, though he was Deputy Chairman some time ago, is no longer in the service of the Corporation. Why should an outsider be brought in and the superior claims of the Vice-Chairman overlooked? To so overlook the claims of an officer of great ability, who has besides given some of his best years to the Corporation, cannot surely be conducive to efficiency. It would also be an act of great injustice. The paper can only hope it is not too late even now to reconsider the matter.

BENGALER,
24th May 1912.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
25th May 1912.

878. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* voices the same opinion and points out that if Mr. Payne is brought in, the business in his permanent office will be dislocated.

Chairman of the Corporation.

BENGALUR,
29th May 1912.

879. In connection with the rumour that the Municipalities of the Chittagong Division will only return one member to Council every other term, the *Bengalee* writes that as things are at present, the only truly popular and independent constituencies are the Municipalities, and it is of the greatest importance that the Municipalities of all the five divisions should have their representatives in the Council at every term. What is proposed, it seems, is to reduce this number to four and a half. Public opinion would strongly condemn any such action on the part of the authorities, and the journal earnestly hopes that the idea, if it is entertained in any quarter, will be given up.

The Municipalities of the
Chittagong Division.

BENGALUR,
26th May 1912.

880. "Ramgati Roy," writing to the *Bengalee*, brings to notice the great water-scarcity which is being experienced in the villages of the Katwa subdivision, district Burdwan. Malaria, too, is creating great havoc in these villages. The help of the District Board is solicited.

Malaria and water-scarcity.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
30th May 1912.

881. Reverting to the question of milk supply, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* brings to notice that a conference was held on Monday last at the Municipal Office and it was proposed that the market should be leased out to the Corporation to enable them to exercise proper control over it. The journal is not aware how the Corporation mean to eradicate the evil. It only hopes that the remedy will not prove worse than the disease. For, if an army of Municipal Inspectors are let loose on milkmen and women who sell their commodity in Calcutta, a stampede is bound to take place amongst them, with the result that though the people are now getting some sort of milk, diluted or otherwise, they will get none whatever when this drastic remedy is applied.

Milk supply.

(g)—*Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.*

BENGALUR,
28th May 1912.

882. A correspondent complains in the *Bengalee* against the Eastern Bengal State Railway authorities who have decided to reduce and disorganise the train service on their Canning Branch in a fashion that is unjustifiable. The number of trains at present is eight and they are very opportune and largely availed of by the public. It is proposed to reduce their number considerably, and the timings are understood to be fixed without the least regard for convenience.

Eastern Bengal State Railway
and public inconvenience.

BENGALUR,
30th May 1912.

883. "Satyendra Prosad Basu," of No. 5, Bethune Row, Calcutta, in a letter to the *Bengalee*, complains against the proposed alteration in the timing of the Chandpur Mail. The public are quite satisfied with the existing timings, and any change in them would mean untold disadvantages to passengers.

The Chandpur Mail train.

INDIAN MIRROR
30th May 1912.

884. The shortage of wagons, writes the *Indian Mirror*, seems to have become a grave problem, and the public wonders why, with a Railway Board, it shows no sign of approaching a solution. The coal trade is suffering much on this account, and it is feared that the hide trade may also suffer, if the railways cannot place more wagons at the disposal of the hide merchants.

Railway complaints.

(h)—*General.*

EAST,
20th May 1912.

885. In the course of an article on "Truth and Honesty in Practical Politics," the *East* writes:—"If we Bengalis fail in strictly adhering to truth and honesty in our political life, or, in other words, in our dealings with the Government, not as an opposition party but as a truthful and honest representative political body, we feel no hesitation in asserting that if our

Truth and honesty in practical
politics.

political leaders continue to play fast and loose with practical politics as they have been doing during the past seven years, East and West Bengals united will have to meet with a greater downfall in future and to regret that the truth of saying 'United we stand, divided we fall' has been reversed in the case of two Bengals united at a great cost."

886. With reference to the appointment of Deputy Sanitary Commissioners and Sanitary Inspectors in certain towns and villages, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* wishes to know what may be the duties of these Deputy Sanitary Commissioners which cannot be efficiently performed by Assistant Surgeons? Why should not the latter, then, be utilised as Deputy Sanitary Commissioners when they can be got much cheaper, and if they are found quite competent to do the duties of a Deputy Sanitary Commissioner with efficiency? The Government have also decided on the appointment of Health Officers in all first and second class municipal towns. There could be no objection, urges the paper, if these officers could suggest means whereby pestilential outbreaks might be prevented, but they are as helpless in the matter as laymen are. Why then increase the number of these officers, specially when there is not a Municipality in the country which is not practically on the verge of bankruptcy?

887. In a letter to the *Bengalee*, "A Sufferer" brings to notice the amount of work that is imposed upon the sorters of the Paper Currency Office. Undue pressure is exercised upon the sorters, who are seldom free before 9-30 P.M. Moreover, the men who apply for privilege leave in the office always have to go without allowance, and substitutes are brought in their places.

888. Expressing its views on the new Press Act, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* says that it is a source of danger as much to the liberties of the Indian press as those of the Anglo-Indian and, that being so, the latter should agitate for its abolition, and the journal guarantees the Indian papers will follow their lead in the matter.

889. Commenting on sanitary reform, the *Indian Mirror* writes:—"It is necessary that the people themselves should wake up to the urgency of sanitary improvements. Various beneficial movements have been started in the country by the educated classes, namely, movements for the promotion of mass education, for the elevation of the depressed classes, etc. Provincial and District Conferences are being held all over the country for the discussion of political, social, and industrial subjects. It is a pity that no thought has yet been bestowed on getting up Sanitary Conferences. Sanitary improvement is regarded as nobody's business, except that of the Government. However, it is to be earnestly trusted that the steps which the Government of India have taken will awaken public interest on the important question of sanitary improvement.

890. The decision of the Secretary of State to retain the Board of Revenue, Bengal, will cause, writes the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, great disappointment to the people. Surely after the formation of the Executive Council, one fails to find any *raison d'être* for this costly wheel of administrative machinery. The journal has lately had occasion to comment on more than one instance in which economy has meant a promiscuous and reckless pruning away of the lower branches, maintaining almost untouched the higher ones—the fatly paid berths. Now, this is an arrangement as far removed from justice as from efficiency of administration. It hopes, however, that with such an able and sympathetic Governor at the helm of affairs, the reforms in the direction of economy will be effected without causing any justifiable discontent or unmerited hardship to the faithful clerks of the departments to be abolished.

III.—LEGISLATION.

891. The *Herald* joins with its contemporary the *Bengalee* in the suggestion that, following the conference of the landholders, the Government should call a meeting of the representatives of the middle class. In the present form of the regulations, no doubt, it is possible for some of the popular representatives to get

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30th May 1913.

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into the Council through other channels, but it is imperative that an electorate should be formed, the basic principle of qualification in which, both for the elector as for the representative, should be one of education. This will give true representatives of the people, considering that in India men of education are the friends and guides of the poor who form an overwhelming portion of the population of the country.

BENGALEE,
29th May 1912.

892. In the opinion of the *Bengalee*, the Council regulations sadly need to be reformed. The standing complaint against them is that they are narrow, restricted, confusing,

The Council regulations. and impose disqualification upon voters and candidates which seem to keep out the best men. The Decentralization Commission have made their recommendations, but no action has yet been taken. It is time that a start was made in this important direction.

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PATRIKA,
30th May 1912.

893. It is now abundantly clear, writes the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, that the main defect in the reformed Councils is the principle of representation, based on the interests

Ibid. of particular communities and classes, and not on those of the people as a whole. There cannot be a greater fallacy than to say that a Mussalman can serve the civic and political interests of the Mussalman community better than a Hindu, that a Hindu can defend the same interests of his co-religionists better than a Mussalman, or that a zamindar is essential to guard the interests of his class. As stated above, matters which are taken up in the Councils affect all the children of the soil equally.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
30th May 1912.

894. "Mohitosh Kumar Roy," of Ganganandapur, and "Chaudhuri," of Jessore, write to the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* protesting strongly against the cultivators of that part of the country spoiling the water of the river Kopatakshy by steeping their jute in the river, year after year. Last year the situation became most miserable, the water of the river being almost blood red with a nauseating smell.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

INDIAN EMPIRE,
28th May 1912.

895. Referring to the report that some of the refugees against whom there are British warrants for sedition are in trouble with the French police in Pondicherry, the *Indian Empire* writes:—"While the notorious anarchists of India are left undisturbed at Paris, which place had become for years their hunting ground, the more insignificant suspects are taken to account in India. We shall be glad if the anarchism in India and in the Continent is suppressed, root and branch, for the welfare of India."

J. S. WILSON,

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OFFICE OF THE BENGAL SPECIAL DEPT.,

9, ELYSIUM ROW,

The 1st June 1912.